

Subject:
MPCGram 1520
From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
1/1/2007, 10:56 PM
To:
mpcgram@papermoneyworld.net

/ MPC Gram News Letter /

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MPC GRAM
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Series 8, no 1520 Tuesday, January 2,
2007

Memphis Date Changes

Mike Crabb has announced that it has been necessary to change the dates of the 2007 Memphis Paper Money Show. The new dates are July 6-8. The change was necessary because of a major conflict with hotel rooms in Memphis.

Research Notes

by joe Boling

I have seen a scan of an Army Exchange Ration Card - European Theater. The AGO form number (too small to read in the scan) is reported as "AGO- 0 - 46 - 650m - 5499(?) - 6(or might be G)929." It was issued 24 September 1946 to a Luxembourg civilian named FRIEDRICH Valentin. His organization is shown as "civilian personnel," and his location as APO 231. In 1946 that APO was at Ansbach, Germany. His duty is listed as "waiter," so apparently he did not actually work at the civilian personnel office.

Here is a PX ration card for tobacco, matches, and candy (all other commodities' boxes were X'd out at the time of printing) issued to a fellow not obviously permitted to use MPC - but in Sept 1946, that's all he COULD have used in the PX. The ration card runs for eight weeks, ending 17 November (the last use was 13 Nov). Has anyone else found evidence that foreign national civilians were MPC users? Incidentally, even though toothpaste was X'd out, "t-paste" is handwritten on the card for three of the eight weeks that it was in use. *****

Championship Question Corner
Question 174, difficulty 3. Where was UNRA Team 569

located (at least during the time that it issued notes)?

Questions 173, difficulty 2. Where was the main office of the E A Wright Bank Note Company located?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers responds that the E A Wright Bank Note Company was located in Philadelphia.

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Editorial

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First and foremost, Happy New Year to Gram subscribers and collectors everywhere!

I cannot possibly explain the poor Gram publication schedule except to say that the ability of the human spirit to reationalize is unbounded. Every single day since the last Gram, I have intended to publish a Gram. I have reported to many people via telephone that I would get a Gram out that day. I have even reported to a few people more than once that I would get a Gram out that day.

Well one of my resolutions for 2007 (in addition to the obligatory lose weight (and get out of numismatic debt)) is to publish the Gram frequently. I would love to vow to get one out every day, but that would be broken soon and once broken, I would lose the motivation of living up to the resolution. A related

and important resolution that does have a daily component is to check my email every day (except for an occassional technological interruption from travel or whatever). Once I got behind on the Gram and on email, I avoided both. I have literally thousands of emails to still process (mostly trash) so I will still be awhile catching up on that, but I will see the new mail every day and process that and work on some of the old mail. We will also publish some mail here that might not fit exactly because we (I) were so bad in getting the Gram out. Finally, I sincerely apologize for the long delay since the prevoius Gram and the overall poor publication schedule in November and December. It is a new year and a new start.

As is tradition, we solicit your forecasts for 2007.

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Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Gram,

Hello Fred, It's been a while since I've written. Not much to pass along. I did recently receive my December Bank Note Reporter and wanted to point out that on page 32 in the H.R.Harmer Auction in January there is a specimen \$10. Turnkey Commissary Receipt illustrated and on page 33 the highlights mention "receipts" as in plural and perhaps a set. It is rubber stamped Oct. 21, 1968. As I mentioned in a letter to you that you published

on the old NASCA sales in 2001, this is MPC related and I am pasting a description from that letter here.....

"The most curious (I couldn't find these in your book-correct me if I'm wrong) item was the Turnkey Commissary Receipts, Vietnam, 1966, for contractors building a fighter base at Tuy Hoa. The bulk of the notes were destroyed and personnel used the 641 MPC. These were described as Gem Unc, 5c thru \$10. (no 50c), estimated at \$2500. up. This was in the Memphis '83 sale of 6/17-18/83 As luck would have it, I do not have the PRL for this sale!!!"

Thought I'd pass along this heads-up and Seasons Greetings to all!!!

Aubrey Haddock

Dear Editor,

Here is a true Christmas story from the Great War. Lt. Gitz Rice belonged to a famous Canadian regiment which was sent to France in World War I. His regiment fought, with the British, across the bleak no-man's-land under fierce fire from the enemy.

One unusual instrument Rice's company took with them was a piano which Rice used to compose the famous war-time song, "Mademoiselle from Armentieres."

On Christmas Eve, 1914, the piano was brought to the front-line trenches. That night, an eerie quiet settled over no-man's-land that felt like a lull before deadly attacks at daylight. Enemy troops were so close they could be heard talking.

Shortly before midnight, Rice began playing Christmas carols in a British trench. The melody, "Silent Night, Holy Night," rang out and pierced the cold, frightening night. Then he played "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing."

The Canadian soldiers joined in and sang with great gusto. Suddenly they were startled to hear the German soldiers joining them in song: "Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht." Then followed other carols familiar to Christians everywhere.

Rice then played a German aria from Wagner's "Tannhaeuser." As he did a Canadian soldier climbed out of his trench, stood in the open and sang the words.

"Mehr! Mehr!" (More! More!) shouted the Germans. Then one of their own men climbed out of his trench, standing as a possible target for the British rifles, and blended his rich baritone voice with that of the Canadian.

At least for one night the message of Christmas broke through to those battle-weary soldiers as they laid their guns aside and sang together the story about the greatest event the world had ever seen the story of God coming to earth as a baby to save lost mankind and ultimately to end all wars forever.

[This spontaneous informal truce in 1914--which also included some French and Belgian troops was largely over by New Year's Day. Commanders on both sides found their troops reluctant to return to fighting and had to order their troops to restart hostilities under penalty of court martial.]

Edited from various online sources.

David Klinger

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Calendar

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2006

The London Paper Money Fair has moved to: Victory Services Club, 63 Seymour Street, off Edgware Road, Marble Arch London and the dates are: Nov 26. see: www.britishnotes.co.uk or www.londonpapermoneyfair.co.uk

Nov 11, Boling house warming party and mini Fest (1600-2000).

Nov 16-19, 2007 Pcda St Louis. IBNS meeting with program by Jim Downey subject "notes with military themes." It is Saturday at 1:00, mini-Fest to follow.

2007

MPCFest: March 23-25 2007 details TBA. [Reservations received: John Cheney(T, k), Harold Kroll(T), Ski, Louise and Joe Boling (k), Warner and Jane (auxilliary) (T), Ian and Bella Marshall(T), Jim Downey(T), Howard Daniel(T,M), Bill Yanchick and Miles (T), Kathy and Dan Freeland (k,T), Sparky Watson (T), Roger Urce(T), Ray and Steve Feller, Geroge Slade, Fred and Judy (auxiliary) Schwan(T). [Totals: festers 20, new Festers 0, Tiger lillies (auxilliary) 2, k=king room] Eternal Festers: Mike Cummings, Robert Kutcher, Leo May.

Coordinating instructions. Please try to coordinate ground transportation from Cleveland, Detroit or

Toledo Airports to reduce rental cars. If you cannot find a ride on your own contact adjutant and transportation officer Sparky Watson (mark.watson@edwards.af.mil). Neither Sparky nor the Fest accept any responsibility for ground transportation, but we will be happy to try to coordinate a ride for you. This MIGHT include ground transportation being sent from Fest Headquarters, but you cannot count on this and you might have to wait depending on other demands.

Memphis 21-23 June.

ANA Summer semnar
Session I: June 24-29, 2007*
Session II: June 30-July 6, 2007

ANA Convention, Milwaukee.

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WANTED - JAPANESE INVASION MONEY (JIM).

Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist available, Anythinfg unusual is of particular interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA 66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

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Marcus Turner- marucs@papermoneyworld.net; Webmaster
and Technical Advisors:Doug Bell "Wiz" -
doug@papermoneyworld.net Russ Walsh
-russ.walsh@gte.net Fact Checker: Warner Talso
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Boss: Judy Schwan

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"imailsrv@papermoneyworld.net" at

this address with the following in the body of the message:

unsubscribe mpcgram

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1/21/2007, 2:55 PM
To:
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MPC GRAM
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Series 8, no 1522 Sunday, January 21,
2007

News and Commentary

by Joe Boling

More fakes from the Balkans
Earlier I talked about modern fakes of WWII
Montenegro overstamps, using an ink jet printer to
apply the stamps. The same dealer also had some Albanian notes with the
post-war overprint applied by ink jet. See SB101-114
under Allied Albania. These are the Italian occupation
Albania notes converted to provisional issues of the
State Bank of Albania by a rectangular overprint (not
stamp) of an eagle and the words "Banka e Shtetit
Shqiptar." Of the ones he had, all were applied by ink
jet. The diagnostics for this fake are more subtle
than those for the VERIFICATO stamps. Because a lot
more ink was applied, the off-color pixels are harder
to isolate But the letterpress diagnostics are missing
- the ink "halos" at the edges of the stamp (ink
pushed out to the edges of the design) are not
present. Fortunately, I already had a genuine of the
20 franka ari note (because I already had a different
fake of that note, produced by non-computer
technology), and I was able to find an example of the
20 franga note with genuine overprint in the stock of
a different dealer at the show. So, if you are buying
one of these overprinted Albanian notes, watch for
fakes.

A reader of the previous column wrote that he had a
hard time determining the status of his VERIFICATO
stamps, lacking a 20x loupe. I used two different 8x
loupes to look at a couple of them - it is possible to

see the colored pixels, particularly if you have seen them already at high power so you know just what to look for. But I agree that it's hard at 8x to be sure what you are seeing. It's also hard to find one of these 20x glasses to buy - but I saw an ad for one very recently. If you have to move to a microscope, that means you won't be able to examine your notes closely until you get home. More fakes from the Balkans Earlier I talked about modern fakes of WWII Montenegro overprints, using an ink jet printer to apply the stamps. The same dealer also had some Albanian notes with the post-war overprint applied by ink jet. See SB101-114 under Allied Albania. These are the Italian occupation Albania notes converted to provisional issues of the State Bank of Albania by a rectangular overprint (not stamp) of an eagle and the words "Banka e Shtetit Shqiptar." Of the ones he had, all were applied by ink jet. The diagnostics for this fake are more subtle than those for the VERIFICATO stamps. Because a lot more ink was applied, the off-color pixels are harder to isolate But the letterpress diagnostics are missing - the ink "halos" at the edges of the stamp (ink pushed out to the edges of the design) are not present. Fortunately, I already had a genuine of the 20 franka ari note (because I already had a different fake of that note, produced by non-computer technology), and I was able to find an example of the 20 franga note with genuine overprint in the stock of a different dealer at the show. So, if you are buying one of these overprinted Albanian notes, watch for fakes.

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In the Harmer's auction of ABN archive materials on 31 Jan - 2 Feb, lot 1778 is color separation proofs of NATO forces in Italy gas coupons. Lots 1795-1800 are unnumbered specimen Turnkey

commissary receipts. In a recent gram Aubrey Haddock mentioned these as having been referenced in the latest BNR. There are six denominations (5c, 10c, 25c, \$1, \$5, \$10), each rubber stamped Oct 21, 1966 with additional stamped text related to ABN's filing. Estimates are \$200-400 to \$300-600. The catalog mentions that there were two copies of each in the

archive, but only one of each is being offered. Although not numbered, there is a block letter in the plate for each - blocks A-F, indicating that there was no 50c denomination intended. This month's University of Washington alumni magazine

("Columns") had an article titled "100 Top Books by 100 UW Authors." World War II Remembered, of course, is way under their radar, but I thought you might be interested in two books that did make the list. Baa Baa Black Sheep, by Gregory "Pappy" Boyington - who was a graduate of UW in 1934. According to Columns, the book has never been out of print since it was published in 1958. Also Tyranny on Trial: The Evidence at Nuremberg, by Whitney Harris, class of 1933. This book was published in 1954. Harris is one of two surviving Nuremberg prosecutors (now 94). Recall the doctored MPC that were being auctioned in the Netherlands (described in detail in an earlier column). When the consigner saw the descriptions applied by the auctioneer (washed, pressed, trimmed, and discolored), s/he withdrew the lots. So, those four pieces ere NOT sold raw, and may yet appear in slabs the next time they are offered. Watch for fuzzy planchettes - the only negative doctoring result likely to be visible through a slab.

Championship Question Corner

Question: Question 175, difficulty 1. Who was the secretary of the Treasury when US war and defense bonds were introduced?

Questions 174, difficulty 3. Where was UNRA Team 569 located (at least during the time that it issued notes)?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers correctly answered that UNRA Team 569 was in Scheinfeld, Germany,

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Editorial

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Wow, another gap of weeks between Grams. While most of it is my fault, some of it is the result of techie problems. While Wiz has been arguing with AOL about distribution of Grams to AOL subscribers, his computer died causing more delays. In the meantime, Joe Boling has come up with a possible solution where he will rebroadcast Grams to AOL Gram subscribers from his AOL address. He went through this with AOL a few years ago and has been blessed to send out newsletter to groups. We may try that in the next week or so.

I have not updated the 2007 Fest list with payments etc. That will be in the next Gram (or the one after that). Please get motivated to send in material for

the Gram so that I will stay motivated to send them out!

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Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Gram,

Happy New Year! Hope all's well in MPC Gram Land and hope you had the chance to enjoy the holidays...Just had to tell you that I got an e-mail today from Bill, and his time in Mosul has allowed him to finish reading his S&B WW II Remembered cover to cover! Too bad he won't make it to the Fest to compete. Better get back to those Champion Questions, so his brain won't lose all his new knowledge...Kathy Myers

So fix the dates for Memphis in the calendar!

Joe

Dear Editor:

Every now and then a movie or book comes out that mentions or features military numismatics. There is a new movie out that Gramsters may be interested in. It is called "The Good German", from a book of the same title by Joseph Kanon.

I read the book and it was very good. A reporter returns to Berlin right after WWII. The devastation of the city and the plight of it's citizens is dramatically portrayed. An Army Lieutenant is killed and his body is found with a suspiciously large amount of AM Marks on it. Finding the killer is the theme of the book.

A further subplot involves the Russian soldiers with large amounts of AM Marks with which they are buying watches (easy to carry back to Russia) and fueling inflation.

If you like mysteries, this is a good read.

Warner

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Calendar

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2006

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program by Jim Downey subject "notes with military
themes." It is Saturday at 1:00, mini-Fest to follow.

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Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and
block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist
available, Anything unusual is of particular
interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA
66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

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Don't pick lemons.
See all the new 2007 cars at Yahoo! Autos.
http://autos.yahoo.com/new_cars.html

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From:
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2/21/2007, 11:37 AM
To:
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MPC Gram News Letter

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Series 8, no 1523 Wednesday, February
21, 2007

MPC in Knight Auction

by Joel Shafer

Over the years, Lyn Knight Currency Auctions has firmly established itself as the #1 home for great MPC collections, particularly with our CPMX auctions. We are proud to continue our tradition of excellence at this venue and offer outstanding MPC on March 9 in Session One. Internet bidding ends the night prior. Be sure to carefully go through this ENTIRE sale; high grade is the hallmark throughout, and it will be worthwhile to review each lot.

Highlights, all in outstanding condition, include a complete Series 461 in LOT 1140; rare Series 591 50 Cents REPLACEMENT in LOT 1158; complete Series 651, with all four fractionals, in LOT 1149; extremely difficult Series 471 5 Dollars in LOT 1164; Series 611 5 Dollars in LOT 1171; and Series 541 10 Dollars in LOT 1178.

Clearly, there are a significant number of items for the most advanced collector. However, this sale provides an outstanding opportunity for someone considering this dynamic field to jump right in and get started! It is paramount to begin with the best, and here it is.

Championship Question Corner

Question 176, difficulty 2. What series of MPC did the Army order immediately after Series 461?

Question 175, difficulty 1. Who was the secretary of the Treasury when US war and defense bonds were introduced?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers correctly answered that Henry Morgenthau was the secretary of the Treasury when defense bonds were issued. Warner Talso went on to clarify the signatures for war and other bonds as well. That response is buried somewhere in

the Gram in box. I hope to be able to recover it and use it later, sigh,--Ed

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Editorial

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The following sentence started my editorial in Gram 1522. Wow, another gap of weeks between Grams. The same sentence is applicable now! I am very sorry about that. While the same old tired (but true) excuses apply, there are some additional ones that you might even find interesting. One week ago tomorrow I delivered the materials for

production of a new military money book to the manufacturer (printer). The title of the book is Silent Witness World War II Civilian Camp Money by Festers Ray and Steve Feller. You will like this book on many counts and you will read about most (all?) of these counts in the coming weeks.

There is no such thing as an easy book project! They are all different, but they are all interesting and trying in their own way. They almost always require very long hours and late nights in the final days and weeks as deadlines pass (usually broken).

In this case the deadlines revolved around the Fest. Yes, the book is scheduled to be released at MPCFest. Feller & Feller will be there for the unveiling so it should be an exciting (roudy?) time.

Immediately after finishing F/F (it really is not FINISHED, it is just MOSTLY off of MY desk, the next task was behind schedule. To my surprise more than I thought!

In working on the book with Carlson, I learned (possibly relearned) that in the 1940s and 50, Yemen had stamps produced by none other than my old favorite E. A. Wright Bank Note Company! Frankly, there was too much work to do for me to study these listings, but I am looking forward to having a copy of the finished book so that I can do that.

Actually, Carlson had planned on having this book too released at the Fest, but that is not going to happen (at least not at Fest 8). Carlson thought that the book was finished months ago, but in addition to some technical and schedule difficulties he found two additional collectors of Yemen stamps to visit for research purposes.

I should share some personal information with you. The Boss (Judy) had a torn rotator cuff. I told everyone that it was from wild sex and to make matters worse her partner was suing us. A few people were confused, but no one believed me. Oh well. It turns out that young people get torn cuffs from sports etc. Old people get it from arthritic shoulders. Anyway, she was operated upon on Jan 15. She has been recuperating since then. She is doing well, thank

you. As you can imagine, her condition added multiple levels of complexity to the above tasks!
Now that all of the above things (F/F, CC, Boss) have been wrestled to the ground if not completed, we are attacking the Fest. Preparations are behind schedule, but they always are. I expect that the Gram will be filled with Fest news in the next few days. I have reservations (and even checks) here in a pile. Of course a high priority will be to process those. If you have sent either of these, please be patient for a few more days.

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Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)
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Dear Gram,
The last Gram that I received was number 1522. What gives?

G. Slade

Dear George,
Well, you have probably figured it out by now. Say to say, we must extend your subscription by a full month to make up for the lost issues. For good will, we will actually extend your subscription for TWO months because it was indeed our error.
Thank you for your continued support.

Editor =====
Calendar
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- HARBONS@aol.com Scholarship Coordinator:

Marcus Turner- marucs@papermoneyworld.net; Webmaster

and Technical Advisors:Doug Bell "Wiz" -

doug@papermoneyworld.net Russ Walsh

-russ.walsh@gte.net Fact Checker: Warner Talso

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this address with the following in the body of the message:

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if you have any problems please report then to doug@papermoneyworld.net

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From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
2/22/2007, 12:58 PM
To:
mpcgram@papermoneyworld.net

MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM
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Series 8, no 1524 Thursday, February
22, 2007

Stolen Valor Act impacts collectors

by Joe Boling

The Stolen Valor Act was signed into law in December. It's intent was to prevent un-entitled persons from wearing or claiming eligibility for military decorations. You will recall that two or three years ago the restrictions on trading the Medal of Honor were tightened. The Stolen Valor Act extends many of those restrictions to the three crosses (DSC, Navy Cross, AF Cross), the Silver Star, and the Purple Heart. But it goes much farther, prohibiting even legitimate holders of these medals from mailing, trading, or buying them. (For instance, a soldier awarded a Purple Heart in Afghanistan could not mail it home to his wife.) No explicit provision was included to allow normal collecting and dealing activities. The Orders and Medals Society of America (OMSA) has prepared an extensive analysis of the new law. In essence, all trade in the above named medals, plus ALL medals of the Navy (Marines) and Air Force, are suspended until implementing regulations are written by an appropriate federal agency (probably the Office of Military History). This has caused the indefinite suspension of a pending auction of militaria (by Floyd, Johnson, and Paine). See the following url for the OMSA analysis: <http://www.omsa.org/forums/showthread.php?t=1332> There could hardly be a finer example of the Law of Unintended Consequences. If you are friendly with a federal legislator, let him/her know that this badly written law must be repaired.

CPMX

Fester Bob Olson is giving a program at CPMX on his experience during the 661/681 conversion. It will be Saturday at 1:00 as part of the IBNS Midwest Chapter meeting. All Gramsters, collectors, and interested parties are welcome to attend. As usual, Festers in attendance should be sure to have a challenge coin and everyone with a hope of being paid (no guarantees) must take a show-n-tell item.

Championship Question Corner

Question 177. Difficuly 3. Whose portrait appears on the \$10 and \$200 war bonds respectively?

Yesterday's: Question 176, difficulty 2. What series of MPC did the Army order immediately after Series 461? Answers and comments: Bill Myers correctly answered that Series 462 was ordered after Series 461 and then issued as Series 471.

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Editorial

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I mentioned in yesterday's Gram (yes, two days in a row) that the new book on WWII camp money by Feller and Feller is in production and should be available at the Fest. There is a dangling matter that I would like to discuss with you and solicit your comment.

Ray and Steve prepared the book with color scans such that the book could be produced in color. First the other specs. It will be 8.5 x 11 inches, paper cover, 160 pages. The question is should the book be in color or black and white? Before you shoot COLOR, think of the other parts of the puzzle. It boils down to this, would you rather have a book in black and white at \$20-25 or one in color at \$45-50? Also, if you would rather spend the extra money for the color, do you think that collector publish shares your views/enthuasism/extravagance? We will appreciate your thoughts and need them promptly.

=====

Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Editor,

While researching information on the internet, I discovered an article regarding "Embassy Parolees" dated July 20, 2002 by Larry "Ski" Smulczenski. In the article he stated he received some photos and a Bordanweisung note dated September 14, 1938. The photos were of crew members from the German luxury liner, SS Columbus who were detained in Ft. Stanton, NM. There were two websites: www.papermoneyworld.net/larry/powcamp.htm and www.papermoneyworld.net/larry/71702gg.jpg listed, but I was not able to access them. I believe they may have been removed.

I have been working on my father's biography and he was one of the crew members from the SS Columbus detained in New Mexico. My father told me about working on the swimming pool while there, and may be one of the persons found in the photo. I was not aware of the use of Bordanweisung notes - that was very interesting. My father did not share a lot of this information with my family while I was growing up as he did not want others to think we were Nazi's.

Some additional information you might find interesting, is that approximately 40 crew members were identified by their own as being too friendly with the border patrol during their detainment. As a result, they were considered as being unloyal to the Fatherland by conversing with persons other than German. The plan was to trap these 40 men in the laundry room and start it on fire. However, one of the 40 found the note listing who was to be eliminated, and warned them. Once the other crew approached them, a big fight broke out, and actually one of the 40 was killed. The border patrol came rushing in to break up the fight and during the turmoil, thought the 40 crew members had started the confrontation. They transferred these men to El Paso, TX and after questioning them realized what had actually taken place. After talking to immigration, the men requested to be placed in camps where they could do the work many of them had been trained to do.

My father was one of the 40 men taken to El Paso, TX. In Germany, he was trained as a baker. He along with two of his other crew mates were transferred to Bismark, ND where he worked on the railroad and then was sent to Fargo, N.D. to work in a bakery. In 1945, he was very proud to become an American citizen.

I would very much appreciate it if you could send me a copy of the pictures and the Bordanweisung note to share with my family and to include in my biography.

Thank you,
Bonnie Folsom

Dear Gram,
Sign me up for fest. I would like to room with Bill Haines.

George Fitzgerald

Dear George (and Bill),
Thanks for the reservation. Within a few days we will get the reservation list up here in the Gram as well as the training schedule for the Fest.

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everyone, most humble dealer or most advanced
collector. The point is to make the gram more
interesting. In all cases confirm your order via email
first.

WANTED SECTION:

Collectors may submit lists of items wanted for their
collections for listing here.

WANTED - JAPANESE INVASION MONEY (JIM).

Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and
block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist
available, Anythinfg unusual is of particular
interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA
66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

Dealers and collectors who have these items, are then
encouraged to list them for sale in the above section
as a reply.

Wanted listings will run for a period of 1 month.

=====
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Date:
2/23/2007, 10:31 PM
To:
mpcgram@papermoneyworld.net

MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM
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Series 8, no 1525 Friday, February
23, 2007

Back to the Philippines

by Jim Downey

MPCGram 1513 contained excerpts from Chick Parsons' report of conditions in the Philippines through June 1942. In March 1943, Parsons returned to the Philippines by submarine. He remained there until July 1943. The following text is taken from his report to General MacArthur's headquarters after returning from this trip to the Philippines. Unfortunately, the original report from which the excerpt was taken was water damaged. The damaged portion is identified in the text. The entirety of both reports (this one and the previous Spiker/Grispholm report excerpted in MPCGram1513) can be found in the Download Page at www.chickparsons.com.

"In the Philippines, a number of types of currency are now being circulated. In the occupied areas, the principal currency is the Japanese military currency, in denominations of one, five, ten, and fifty centavos, one, five, and ten pesos. Philippine

Government currency is still permitted circulation by the enemy, but it has practically disappeared from the market altogether; so much so that when it is presented for use, in enemy immediately suspects that it may represent an illegitimate transaction. (Note that any planned use of "old" money in the occupied areas of the Philippines must carry with it a plan for the exchange of the currency for Japanese military currency within the areas through trusted contacts to avoid suspicion being aroused.) In the occupied areas, there is a black market for U.S. currency, usually at a small discount on par (about 180 pesos Japanese military currency per 100 dollars U.S. currency), due to the risk run by the parties to the exchange (death, if caught).

In the "free" areas, emergency currency authorized before the southern provinces fell into the hands of the enemy still has a rather widespread circulation. In the recognized guerrilla districts, new issue of emergency currency is the basis of circulation, and the public has confidence in this currency as demonstrated by its widespread circulation. The 10th Military District currency for Mindanao is accepted at full value in the adjoining districts. In the unrecognized districts, nearly every barrio has printed emergency currency (usually in small change), using as security a supply of 20 peso "bombers" in provincial emergency currency, which because of the high denomination is worthless for ordinary circulation within the barrios. It is planned by the various barrios to redeem the "barrio" currency at the end of the emergency. This type of currency is not given widespread circulation -- the bills from one barrio being valueless in other barrios.

In Luzon, numerous groups of guerrillas have printed notes for use in territories. These guerrillas have in most part been unrecognized and lawless forces, using their force of arms to commandeer supplies, food, equipment, etc. They have printed and forced the acceptance of their script on the public. The redemption of this type of currency after the war should be handled with great care. This does not refer to the legitimate issues of circulating notes by the properly organized and recognized units of Colonel Thorpe, those in the Mountain Provinces, in Ilocos Norte, and any units which by their activities may be considered as acceptable guerrilla units.

Within the "free" areas, when the guerrilla currency first was placed in circulation, there were black market exchange rates -- generally against the new currency. As recognition has come to the districts (10th Military District particularly), the guerrilla currency has risen in value and may generally be considered as almost on a par with the Philippine

Government currency. Practically no U.S. currency is encountered in the free areas, but it may readily be converted into either Philippine currency or emergency currency, at better than par, in small amounts. No coins may be found in circulation either in the free or in the occupied areas. They have disappeared from use completely. It is reported that the enemy has exported all coins captured or gathered after the surrender for use as metal in Japan, and thus only a limited amount of coins may be expected to be placed in circulation again when normal conditions return to the country.

[water damage here]

notes and coins. It would seem advisable for the Commonwealth Government now functioning in Washington to prepare plates and dies for new bills and coins, and have a supply, of both prepared and ready to send with the Army on its return to the Islands. Upon arrival of the new currency in the Islands, all currency in use should be banned immediately, and plans outlined carefully for the quick redemption of the various types of currency which may be considered "legitimate." For, instance, U.S. notes, and emergency currency of recognized guerrilla districts should be redeemed without question; Philippine Government currency should be redeemed in non-speculative amounts and where the official handling the exchange is reasonably sure that the notes have not come from pro-Japanese officials or from sources within the enemy organization. (This is indicated because of the fact that the enemy has conducted a systematic acquisition of Government currency, and many of the pro-Japanese officials have converted surplus funds into Philippine Government currency).

Currency which should be prohibited, and not redeemed, would include Japanese Military currency, (for reasons which will be set forth), barrio currency, fifty peso bills of the 1921 series, known as "Lawtons," which represent stolen bills from cache in Bukidnon where Commissioner Guingona buried the only bills of this series in existence (and the issue of which had not been authorized), amounting to four million pesos. Holders of these bills know quite well of their doubtful value, as is shown by the traffic in the bills at rates from five to twenty-five pesos of emergency currency per "Lawton."

Concerning the remark above as to the advisability of not redeeming any of the Japanese military currency, there is no doubt that some hardship may be occasioned by this move. However, there has been so much speculation in this currency, that it may be generally considered that no large amounts will be found in the hands of anyone who has

not accumulated it for speculative reasons. The people who have disposed of the currency have done so sometimes at great sacrifice -- thus the original holders of Japanese currency, which they may have had to accept in exchange for their labors, their crops or through disposal of their assets, have already made their sacrifice in disposing of the money at a considerable loss. Many of the people have also disposed of the Japanese currency at the race tracks, cockpits, gambling-halls, cabarets, the jai-alai, and other places of amusement, so that it resulted in unprecedented prosperity for those places. It is to be expected that they will have on hand large quantities of the currency. Should they be permitted to benefit as a result of the war?

Banking institutions will not necessarily suffer by the non-redemption of Japanese Military currency. They have as a rule worked out a more or less secret code for indicating which deposits made by their clients since the war have been made in Philippine Government currency, and they need not accept the responsibility of repaying deposits of Japanese currency with whatever new Philippine Government currency that may be placed in circulation after the emergency. They would be responsible, of course, for returning deposits in the same value of Japanese military currency.

A plan to"

[water damage here]

Regarding the rapid redemption of guerrilla and "emergency" circulating notes, this is very important to avoid the counterfeiting of some of the currency. Due to the limited facilities available and the conditions under which the guerrilla and emergency currency was printed, ordinary precautions to prevent counterfeiting could not be followed. As soon as normal conditions return and facilities may be made available to uncouth individuals, the bills could be counterfeited without difficulty. The best insurance against this would be to ban the circulation of all types of currency (as noted above), and order the redemption of all currencies within a period of thirty days. It will admittedly be quite a task to redeem all currencies within such a comparatively short time, but it should be attempted to avoid the attempted possibilities of counterfeiting. Another item to consider is that the emergency funds, and the guerrilla emergency notes should probably be redeemed only at the provincial districts and provinces which have safeguarded the currency by signatures of one or more officials of the province and have included secret markings in the bills to avoid imitations. It

should not be much of a hardship to force the return of the money to the province where issued, and the additional safety in doing so will well justify the inconveniences to some of the people.

It is estimated the Japanese military organization has put into circulation throughout the occupied areas more than one hundred million pesos and it has been estimated that about twelve million pesos in Japanese military currency is being added to that amount monthly. It is not beyond imagination to consider that by the time normal conditions are restored, there may be in circulation in the occupied areas a much larger amount of Japanese currency, than original Philippine Government currency before the war in the entire archipelago.

It may be of interest to note that in the "free" areas practically no Japanese military currency may be found. That which may have gotten into the area in the earlier days has all been sent into the occupied areas in exchange for purchases or by the guerrilla units for intelligence work behind the enemy lines. It is considered valueless."

Championship Question Corner

Question 178. Difficulty 3. Name four countries that participated in the WWII occupation of Germany AND issued an army currency for the occupation.

Yesterday's: Question 177. Difficulty 3. Whose portrait appears on the \$10 and \$200 war bonds respectively?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers correctly answered that Benjamin Franklin is on the \$10 war bond and Franklin Roosevelt on the \$200.

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Editorial

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Thank you to everyone who has written in the past few days. It is much easier to get Grams out when mail is coming in. Saturday I am going to a stamp show of all things. Yes, as in philately. I do not go to many of these, but I usually find a few things of interest. I hope that this is no exception.

In my mail box was a solicitation from Krause Publications to be listed in a dealer directory. That is interesting enough I suppose, but I was amazed at the questionnaire. Advertisers were asked to indicate their various numismatic specialities and to my astonishment one of the listed categories was MILITARY. Wow.

=====

Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Editor,

I would suggest that you print that new book in color in India or Hong Kong...hang in the 21st century.....

Colinski,
Frozen Tundra, WI

Dear Editor,

You say that a book in color would cost double that of a B/W book.

My sources do not agree. Maybe you are using the wrong printers?

David Klinger

Dear editor,

I disagree with Joe Boling and support the Stolen Valor Act, I believe that there should be no collecting or dealing in military medals and awards as he states. It is just so wrong to put a monetary value on them. The only military awards I have are mine and my Father's, I have his because he is no longer alive. We both earned our military awards the honorable way.

Sincerely,
Gavin Quinn
Active Duty USAF 1988-1994

Dear Gavin, Cool. Thanks for your thoughts. Sounds like this is something that we should bat around for awhile. By chance today I read that US military medals and decorations can be worn by former military personnel on civilian clothing at various social events. I did not know that. Of course I have seen it done (at least on TV etc.), but I did not know that it was authorized.

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Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and
block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist
available, Anythinfg unusual is of particular
interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA
66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM
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Series 8, no 1526 Sunday, February
26, 2007

BCOF etc.

by David Klinger

A few months ago I received news of a [military numismatic] Gold Strike in Australia from our fellow Gramster and Seminarian, Tony James.

This discovery is a continuation of a string of discoveries which started with the 100 Yen British Commonwealth Occupation Force (BCOF) Special voucher, and then the Netherlands East Indies (NEI) Australian counterfeits. Both of these have been reported in the Gram and elsewhere.

Then, Tony was able to get a look into a safe at The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) which had not previously been available due to the fact that the only employee at the RBA who had access to the safe was on extended leave for several months.

The search of the material in the safe was meant to find any further info/examples of the BCOF Special Vouchers and/or the NEI counterfeits. Nothing more was found of those items.

But, much to our surprise, a whole new proposed WWII issue was found!

What the Australians had produced in 1943/44 were proofs/essays of Allied Military Occupation Currency

(AMOC). There was a color "Photographic Proof of the front and back of a 10 Yen Note" and a "Sketch Design [essay] of the front of a 50 Yen Note"

Both Tony and I were also provided with a large number of the WWII correspondence files related to most everything produced by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA). This was the predecessor of the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA). We owe our thanks to Virginia MacDonald, archivist of the RBA, for providing all of this wonderful research material.

Tony put most of the pieces of this puzzle together for an article in the Australian numismatic press. It is an outstanding product. He also plans an article for the IBNS. You can see his first article here:

<http://www.papermoneyworld.net/grams/1500-1599/JapYen.pdf>

If you can't read .pdf files, you can view the AMOC 10 Yen proof, and 50 Yen essay at:

<http://davidklinger.blogspot.com>

BRAVO ZULU to Tony!

Championship Question Corner

Question 179. Difficulty 3. How many different types (varieties) of APO money orders were sold to soldiers overseas during WWII? (We are looking for the minimum confirmed number of varieties.)

Yesterday's: Question 178. Difficulty 3. Name four countries that participated in the WWII occupation of Germany AND issued an army currency for the occupation.

Answers and comments: Bill Myers and Warner Talso sent good answers. Warner wrote: Very good question with a clever nuance. I expect joint or supplemental issues do not count. Also there is a difference between "issued" and "used".

Therefore I suggest: The United States (MPC), The Netherlands (Ministerie van Orlog notes), Belgium (Armee Belge notes) and Denmark (Den Danske Brigade notes). For extra credit I add Great Britain {British Armed Forces Special Vouchers (BAFSV)}.

Bill wrote: I looked up the meaning of Army Currency and think I have it. Countries that released Army issues in occupied Germany are: United States-Military Payment Certificates, Great Britain-British Armed Forces Special Vouchers, Netherlands-Ministerie van Oorlog, Belgium-Armee Belge. [They did a good job. Here is a good question that we cannot include in the championship series because it is not (exactly) issued in Remembered or other numismatic sources (that I know of). What Allied countries participated in the

occupation of Germany but did NOT issue an army currency? One is Canada. That is too easy (Canada used MPC). Are there any other countries?]

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Editorial

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I had a great time at the Toledo STAMP show on Saturday. I spent most of the day there and really only went through the inventory of two dealers. Both had large inventories of World War II covers. Most of these were patriotic cover. That is they had printed patriotic (propaganda) messages. Many were beautiful, all were interesting.

My purchases with the most direct numismatic connection were postal money order receipts from the war period. We mention postal money orders frequently when discussing military pay and finance. For a very long time, possibly even today, PMOs were an important way for soldiers to send money home. Certainly it was true through Vietnam. Some of the various money orders issued over the many decades were marked military or were in some other way identifiable as being from the military community.

Of course it is rare to find an uncashed money order from World War II. In fact, I have never heard of one, but there must be at least a few. Next to the money order in desirability is the stub/receipt. I think that this is the first time that I found any of those (but I am not sure).

These small stub include quite a bit of information. First and foremost is the postmark that identifies it as coming from an APO. I obtained stubs from three APOs. One is not full legible (I will get Joe Boling to read it). The other two APOs are 709 and 871. Those are Guadacanal and Cheltonham, England. Guadacanal, wow. I cannot make out the date. I think that it is April 1, 1944, but it could be 1945. I just noticed that in my small sample there are two different types of stubs. They are similar but the text is different. Type 1 (1942 date) has the word Receipt immediately below the serial number: type 2 has the receipt text below the amount.

What do you think a subscription to Readers Digest cost in 1944/5? I know the answer because the back of one of the receipts indicates what the order was for. A subscription cost \$1.50.

I will tell you about some of my other purchases later. =====

Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Editor,

Only a few more weeks until the Fest, so time to start coordinating rides. As the Transportation Officer, I will facilitate coordination between

drivers and riders, with final arrangements being left to the drivers and riders. Also, there is no guarantee that a match will be made, so if you are not driving to the Fest, please have an arrangement in place to procure your own transportation as a taxi service may not be available.

To assist me with the coordination, I'm looking for the following information:

For riders - City where you need the ride from, airline flight information (number and arrival time), city where you need the ride back to, and return flight information

For drivers - Cities traveling from and if you are going through one of the following towns (Detroit, Toledo, or Cleveland) and approximately what time you would be going both coming to the Fest and returning back home

Please email me the information at mcwatson@yahoo.com . I'll send out updates every Sunday and then daily the last week leading up to the Fest.

Cheers,
Sparky

Dear Editor,

Well, in this case I agree with Joe Boling about the Stolen Valor Act. It is just ridiculous to try to prevent collectors from buying or selling military decorations. Just today, I bought a Navy Cross from my local Navy Exchange - did I break the law? Or did the NEX?

David Klinger

Dear Gram,

As a veteran, I can understand Gavin Quinn's comments in Gram 1525 about the Stolen Valor Act. I personally believe those who wear or claim awards and decorations they have not earned are low-lives who impugn whatever service they may have done for the country by doing their false claims. At the same time, you have to look at the unintended consequences of the Act. It would make a felon out of me for acquiring a Purple Heart, an award I did not earn, and putting it in a shadowbox in memory of my nephew who was killed in Iraq in 2004. I would also be guilty of a separate offense for mailing the same shadowbox to his mother. Is this really good policy?

Jim Downey

Good Afternoon:

I vote for color.
G. W. Slade

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MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM
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Series 8, no 1527 Tuesday, February
27, 2007

Medal of Honor

WASHINGTON (AP): An unarmed helicopter pilot who flew through a hail of bullets to rescue 70 wounded Americans in one of the fiercest battles of the Vietnam War was awarded the Medal of Honor Monday, 41 years later.

Retired Lt. Col. Bruce Crandall, 74, received America's highest military honor Monday from President George W. Bush in the White House East Room. The medal recognizes Crandall for his valor in repeatedly flying into enemy fire to bring in ammunition and supplies and evacuate the wounded.

Crandall completed 22 flights in a 14-hour period on Nov. 14, 1965, most under intense enemy fire. His actions in the Battle at Ia Drang Valley were depicted in the 2002 movie "We Were Soldiers," adapted from the book "We Were Soldiers Once ... And Young."

Bush, in his remarks, said Crandall had to fly three different helicopters over the course of the mission. Two were damaged so badly they could not stay in the air.

Yet Crandall and another pilot, Capt. Edward Freeman, "flew through a cloud of smoke and a wave of bullets," Bush said. They "kept flying until every wounded man had been evacuated and every need of the battalion had been met." Freeman was awarded the Medal of Honor in 2001.

Stolen Valor Act

by Gavin Quinn

This is in response to Dave Klinger's comments on the Stolen Valor Act: The act follows my comments: "It is just ridiculous to try to prevent collectors from buying or selling military decorations."

Why? Please explain.

"Just today, I bought a Navy Cross from my local Navy Exchange - did I break the law? Or did the NEX?" I am not a lawyer, but as I read the Act, I believe if you were not entitled to the Navy Cross, both you and the NEX employee broke the law. Purchasing the Navy Cross in a Navy Exchange, just because you have exchange privileges, does not entitle you to abuse them. I believe the reason the exchange offered the medal for sale, was for purchase by those entitled to the award as a replacement or as extras for additional uniforms. For example I purchased additional Communications maintenance badges, which I earned and which I was entitled to wear, in the exchange. I did this so I would not have to take them off and put them on different uniforms, (class A's, summer, etc.) If you were to resell this Navy Cross

for a collector, you are breaking the law as I read it. I believe straw [?] purchases in the exchange are also illegal, please correct me if I am wrong. I believe it is so wrong to collect military awards, period. There are so many other military related items to collect, why insist on collecting medals? Some military medals are earned with a special currency, the ultimate sacrifice. I collect unit command patches I was associated with on active duty, I collect mpc etc., these things are not even in the same league as military awards. David, I am sure your intentions are not to dishonor our military and its traditions in any way, just the opposite. Collecting is something everyone who reads the gram shares. I just believe, some things should not be collected, that's my opinion. I am just trying to understand this desire by some to collect military awards.

By the way my father, Anthony Quinn, served in WWII 1942-45, combat in the Pacific Theater, New Caledonia, Guadalcanal, and the Philippines. His unit was training for the invasion of Nagasaki, when the A-bomb was dropped on Japan. I am glad President Truman dropped the Bomb, or else I may not have ever existed.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the `Stolen Valor Act of 2005'.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Fraudulent claims surrounding the receipt of the Medal of Honor, the distinguished-service cross, the Navy cross, the Air Force cross, the Purple Heart, and other decorations and medals awarded by the President or the Armed Forces of the United States damage the reputation and meaning of such decorations and medals.

(2) Federal law enforcement officers have limited ability to prosecute fraudulent claims of receipt of military decorations and medals. (3) Legislative action is necessary to permit law enforcement officers to protect the reputation and meaning of military decorations and medals.

SEC. 3. ENHANCED PROTECTION OF MEANING OF MILITARY DECORATIONS AND MEDALS.

(a) Expansion of General Criminal Offense- Subsection (a) of section 704 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking `manufactures, or sells' and inserting `purchases, attempts to purchase, solicits

for purchase, mails, ships, imports, exports, produces blank certificates of receipt for, manufactures, sells, attempts to sell, advertises for sale, trades, barter, or exchanges for anything of value.

(b) Establishment of Criminal Offense Relating to False Claims About Receipt of Decorations and Medals- Such section 704 is further amended-- (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c); (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following: (b) False Claims About Receipt of Military Decorations or Medals- Whoever falsely represents himself or herself, verbally or in writing, to have been awarded any decoration or medal authorized by Congress for the Armed Forces of the United States, any of the service medals or badges awarded to the members of such forces, the ribbon, button, or rosette of any such badge, decoration, or medal, or any colorable imitation of such item shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than six months, or both.'; and

(3) in paragraph (1) of subsection (c), as redesignated by paragraph (1) of this subsection, by inserting 'or (b)' after 'subsection (a)'.

(c) Enhanced Penalty for Offenses Involving Certain Other Medals- Such section 704 is further amended by adding at the end the following:

(d) Enhanced Penalty for Offenses Involving Certain Other Medals- If a decoration or medal involved in an offense described in subsection (a) or (b) is a distinguished-service cross awarded under section 3742 of title 10, a Navy cross awarded under section 6242 of title 10, an Air Force cross awarded under section 8742 of section 10, a silver star awarded under section 3746, 6244, or 8746 of title 10, a Purple Heart awarded under section 1129 of title 10, or any replacement or duplicate medal for such medal as authorized by law, in lieu of the punishment provided in the applicable subsection, the offender shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

(d) Conforming Amendments- Subsection (c) of such section 704, as so redesignated, is further amended--

(1) by inserting 'Enhanced Penalty for Offenses Involving' before 'Congressional Medal of Honor'; and

(2) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

(2) CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR DEFINED- In this subsection, the term 'Congressional Medal of Honor' means-- (A) a medal of honor awarded under section

3741, 6241, or 8741 of title 10 or section 491 of title 14; `(B) a duplicate medal of honor issued under section 3754, 6256, or 8754 of title 10 or section 504 of title 14; or `(C) a replacement of a medal of honor provided under section 3747, 6253, or 8747 of title 10 or section 501 of title 14.

Championship Question Corner
Question 180. Difficulty 2. Where were Series 1944 marks printed?

Yesterday's: Question 179. Difficulty 3. How many different types (varieties) of APO money orders were sold to soldiers overseas during WWII? (We are looking for the minimum confirmed number of varieties.)

Answers and comments: We might have been a little tricky on this one. We were trying to be cute. The answer is two varieties. The answer to this was in the editorial in Gram 1527 just a few lines below the question. One person wrote that he could not find the answer in Remembered, MPC or any other place.

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Editorial

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Lt. Col. Bruce Crandall was awarded the Medal of Honor Tuesday (possibly it was Monday). In what little I have read about it, it seems that he is certainly deserving. Unfortunately, in some of the news reports that I read (and also between the lines), it seems that there might have been more politics involved than is desirable. I guess that there is no surprise there. To a very limited degree I collect military medals. Mostly issued by countries other than the US. Anyway, I guess that I should make some comments on the Stolen Valor controversy. First, I am delighted that several Gramsters have taken the time to write and hope that some more will do the same.

In reading what I can find on this, it seems that the major intent of Congress is to prohibit people from claiming in any way that they are the just recipient of the various awards. That certainly seems fitting and proper to me. Furthermore, there is little doubt in my mind that the collecting of the various medals not only honors the recipients (as opposed to collectors), but also is intended to honor them. If the purpose of disallowing buying/selling of medals was to protect against fraudulent wearing or claiming, then I think that it is at best misguided prohibition. It seems much better to define the actually offensive behavior (fraudulent claims of receiving) and punishing those. While the act seems to make it illegal to buy or

sell these medals, it does not [seem to] make it illegal to possess them. Although cumbersome, that seems to mean that we could collect using barter. On the practical side of things. Prohibitions seldom work. Indeed, being told that I cannot collect medals makes me want to do that. It does not, by the way, make me want to CLAIM THAT I EARNED them nor want to WEAR THEM.

It occurs to me that the government (military) has facilitated the trade in medals by routinely awarding medals that are not engraved with the person's name. What about the award certificates? Can they be legally collected. I actually like those better than the medals themselves. Is it the intent that medals can be inherited? If so (as I imagine), must they be inherited by relatives? What if there are no relatives? What if the relative is, gad, a collector? What about museums? Dare they have collections of medals? If they can, what constitutes a museum collection.

Then there is the service that collectors have done by finding, researching, preserving, and maintaining many medals that no doubt would have been lost forever except for their well-known passion.

We not only look forward to more collector opinions on the matter, but also to thoughts by some of the lawyers out there.

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Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)
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Dear Gram,

A reminder to all gramsters that my auction closes on March 1 (Thursday) at 9 PM Mountain Time. As usual we have large array of WWII and related memorabilia including numerous concentration camp notes, ration coupons and sundry other items.

The catalog is available for viewing at <http://www.rosenblumcoins.com/37a>. Just click on the word "image" after the description for a color scan of the lot.

You can bid via phone, fax or email. We'll be available by phone from 9 to 9 (at least) until the end of the sale.

Phones 303 838 4831 or 303 910 8245
Fax 303 838 1213
email Bill@Rosenblumcoins.com

Bill Rosenblum

Dear Bill,
We cannot run your letter because of the crase

comercialism involved. Good try.

Editor

A current numismatic catalog that has pictures that are not in color, is not a catalog that will have widespread utility. Clearly there are many current catalogs in Europe and the rest of the world published in color, at a price point well below the \$40 to \$50 price you suggest. The catalogs are more in the \$25-\$30 range.

David

Dear Festers,

Only a few more weeks until the Fest, so time to start coordinating rides. As the Transportation Officer, I will facilitate coordination between drivers and riders, with final arrangements being left to the drivers and riders. Also, there is no guarantee that a match will be made, so if you are not driving to the Fest, please have an arrangement in place to procure your own transportation as a taxi service may not be available.

To assist me with the coordination, I'm looking for the following information:

For riders - City where you need the ride from, airline flight information (number and arrival time), city where you need the ride back to, and return flight information

For drivers - Cities traveling from and if you are going through one of the following towns (Detroit, Toledo, or Cleveland) and approximately what time you would be going both coming to the Fest and returning back home

Please email me the information at mcwatson@yahoo.com . I'll send out updates every Sunday and then daily the last week leading up to the Fest.

Cheers,
Sparky

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Calendar

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2007

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MPCFest: March 23-25 2007 details TBA.

14 and 15 April 2007

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Memphis 6-8 July

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WANTED SECTION:

Collectors may submit lists of items wanted for their collections for listing here.

WANTED - JAPANESE INVASION MONEY (JIM).

Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist available, Anythinfg unusual is of particular interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA 66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

Dealers and collectors who have these items, are then encouraged to list them for sale in the above section as a reply.

Wanted listings will run for a period of 1 month.

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MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM
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Series 8, no 1528 Wednesday, February
28, 2007

Criminal Purchases

by David Klinger

I appreciate and respect the comments regarding collecting military medals made by Gavin Quinn.

I want to set the record straight regarding my stawman report about recently buying a Navy Cross. What I did was pick a Navy Cross off the rack, and take it to the checkout for a price check. I then asked the clerk and the shift manager if they knew of the Stolen Valor Act restrictions concerning the buying and selling of such items. They never heard of it, but the manager said he would bring it to the attention of the O-in-C. I expect that the rules will change soon. I did not actually buy the Navy Cross, but I do love these kinds of debates in the Gram. Before the current act, I have purchased medals at the NEX which I did not earn, for my personal collection.

I have only a small collection of military medals and insignia. Those I earned during my 30 years in the Navy are in one shadow box, and all others are proudly displayed in other formats. Most are submarine related insignia, and not valor awards. I have never sold any of these items.

I did want to relate an incident which happened several summers ago, during the ANA Summer Seminar. Adna Wilde and I were sitting in the hallway waiting for the instructors to open the classroom. They were late as usual. A young man approached us and asked us to identify a medal he was trying to sell for an estate. It was a Medal of Honor! I looked at it first, and with the help of the accompanying papers, identified it as a Civil War era medal. Before I could react to my instincts, Adna made it clear to the young man that neither of us would be interested in buying the medal, because it was against the law. He also told him to return the medal to the seller with a warning against selling it. Of course, even before the Stolen Valor Act, it was against the law to buy or sell a Medal of Honor. Adna was right. And, if the current law stands unchanged, I will abide by it. Just for the record, I fully agree that anyone who misrepresents their awards or decorations should be punished.

Championship Question Corner

Question 181. Difficulty 3. What new method of paying military personnel for unpaid leave was introduced in 1946?

Yesterday's: Question 180. Difficulty 2. Where were Series 1944 marks printed?

Answers and comments: it is not often noticed or

mentioned, but AMC marks are, well, er, marked Series 1944. Therefore, Series 1944 marks were printed in the US and USSR. In the US they were printed by Forbes. The USSR printing might in doubt a little. Initially they were probably printed in the Soviet Union. Later it has been reported that they were printed in Leipzig which actually alters the answer somewhat.

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Editorial

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Back to my stamp show finds. A war department post card post marked Sep 9, 1946 is was very interesting. It has the following text printed on the back.

Dear Sir:

Your claim for terminal leave pay has been received and unless necessary to return for correction, check and/or bond, when ready will be mailed t the address entered on the claim.

Settlement will be made as soon as possible, and no further communication regarding the claim should be sent this office for 90 days, except to correct claim or report a change of address.

Your discharge certificate will be returned in separate envelope.

FO USA
Chicago

The return address on the front of the postcard is
War Department
Finance Office, US Army
33 N. La Salle St.
Chicago 2, Illinois

Of course the bonds mentioned on the card were Armed Forces Leave Bonds. These were first listed in the 1995 WWII Remembered. Where we only speculated on their use. Since then a few more examples have been found and Jim Downey has done some great research to confirm that the bonds were used to pay for unused leave. He has found various documents. He probably has one of these cards, but, heck, I was delighted to get it for a buck!

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Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Editor,

I can agree with the notion that those who did not earn medals, awards and decorations should not be permitted to wear them or claim to have earned them. On the other hand the "shotgun" approach of banning all sales, trades, etc of all medals and decorations to non-earners is typical of government laws and rules

that are enacted without thought or input from those affected. The law should be re-written to permit possession for non-fraudulent purposes. Two other points: does the law prohibit the wife or survivor of a serviceman killed in combat from accepting the Purple Heart on behalf of his/her relative? Secondly reference was made to the "Congressional Medal of Honor": my understanding is the proper term is the Medal of Honor and that Congress has nothing to do with it.

As far as the Feller book is concerned, I would vote for color.

Roger Urce

Dear Gram,

An short input to the military honor debate. When people here in Denmark are given an order like a cross, this order must be returned to the government after the persons death. The government keeps books as to whom the order has been given, so the order can be reclaimed. If the US government instituted this practice for at least the most important military (or civilian) honors, that could solve the problem of unduly trading, which unfortunately also takes place on this side of the Atlantic with European medals and orders.

Flemming Hansen

Dear Editor,

Now that you have heard about our coming CPMX auction with a wonderful MPC selection, a quick reminder that World Sale 10 at our www.lkcaworldpapermoney.com website ends Tuesday night.

This sale contains some spectacular Gram-related items and also several intriguing lots. Highlights include: Austria LOT 18, International Refugee Organization complete set; Burma LOT 73, 10 Rupees with scarce Mihon overprint ex-Boling collection; China LOTS 98-106 inclusive are all worthy of mention, several ex-Boling collection; Fiji LOT 192 overprint with 1D serial prefix, now an area in demand; Germany LOT223, Allied Military 20 Mark difficult replacement; Great Britain unusual LOTS 228 and 229; Italy LOT 272 excessively rare 50 Lire from Dodecanese Islands and LOT 273 high grade 50 Lire circulating check from Banco di Roma; Japan LOTS277 and 278, both ex-Boling collection; Korea LOT 284, ex-Boling collection; Libya LOT 289 high grade 100 Lire Tripolitania; Malaya LOTS 297 and 298, with unusual overprint on the latter; Philippines LOTS 370-374 including some high grade CENTRAL BANK

overprint pieces; Thailand LOTS 445-449, high grade; Timor LOT 451; and United States LOT 458 chits.

Please contact me at grbaypa@aol.com if you have any questions-thank you.

Joel Shafer

Dear Editor,

Are my fellow Gramsters xenophobes ? What is all the talk about Army Currency?

As far as I know, there has never been any Army Currency. Do you remember the Navy, Air Force, and Marines?

Prove me wrong.

David Klinger

Dear Dave,

What is the matter? You got something against the Coast Guard!? See Joes response below then I will comment some more.

Editor

Dear Dave,

Look at page 17 of SB. Army currency is another name for army issues. It is a distinct class of military-related emissions. Perhaps a better name would be "military issues" (distinguished from occupation issues, liberation issues, and so forth), but calling it "military issues" would get too close to the overall categorization of ALL of these as "military" currencies. Do you have suggestion?

Joe

Dear Dave,

Joe does not come right out and say it, but the term army currency was invented by Joe and me sitting in my office in 1994. We struggled about the very issue that you bring up for a long time. We settled on it for the reason that Joe mentions and some others. This issue brings up one of the little known and oft overlooked discussions that we had in Remembered. All of these issues are created for some sort of mission. They were not normally prepared as part of a master plan so that everything would be nicely categorized. Even the two major multiple series issues of WWII--JIM and AMC--evolved over the course of the war so the various issues have anomalies. Joes question at the very end is very good. We would like to have more discussions on these matters in the hope of correcting, possibly refining, or at least validating

the terminology (and all other aspects of the various issues.)

Editor

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66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM

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Series 8, no 1529 Thursday, March 1,
2007

Earn Your Medals

by Flt Lt Andrew M Clark (RAF Retd).

Some of the participants in the current discussion on medal collecting appear to lack focus and the Act referred to appears to be using a sledgehammer to crack a nut.

In MPCGram 1527 the correspondent makes a clear distinction between buying a medal for a collection and buying a medal in order to pass oneself off as a legitimate recipient. Surely this is the crux of the matter; do you claim to be the legitimate recipient?

My medal has my Service details engraved around the edge, and is now mounted in a display case with those of my father and grandfather (which are not engraved). The duplicate I openly purchased to wear at Remembrance Parades is clearly a Copy as this word has been clearly engraved into the mold before the reproduction medal was cast. I did not need to buy someone else's medal, I bought a Copy.

Last week we had a nationally broadcast antiques TV programme openly explaining to the son of the recipient that their group of medals was of particular interest to collectors as it was awarded for tank (cavalry) actions and contained the MC and MM. This more than tripled the already not inconsiderable value. The son was not interested in selling, only in insuring.

Collecting is a fact of life; we are collectors. The stories associated with a group of medals are as much a part of the collecting, as is the possession of those medals. If we start criticizing others then we need to take care that we do not live in a glass house; ghetto scrip, concentration camp money, Bernhard forgeries. I've even been offered a note saturated in the blood of the last Japanese owner; removed from the body by the father of the person offering it to me. I declined the offer.

Let us all retain a sense of proportion and keep a focus on the issue.

More Valor and Commentary

by Joe Boling

In response to Gavin Quinn's letter in gram 1525: I was neither advocating nor condemning trading in military decorations. However, there is a well-established collector base for these artifacts, and there can surely be no better repository of, for instance, 19th century campaign and service medals than collectors of same. Museums are notorious for not caring about, nor caring for, such items in their possession. If not for dedicated collectors, knowledge about and the very existence of these items would wither. I think of my friend the late Al Gleim. Had he been unable to collect the pieces cited above, he would never have been able to conduct the seminal research that he published in many OMSA articles and books, identifying originally-named pieces as distinguished from altered and spurious naming. Collectors were not the target of the Stolen Valor

Act, but the bill's drafters were so incompetent, or so oblivious, that collectors ended up downrange. They need to be protected. In the March FUN-Topics was a report of the FUN annual meeting, which was held at the convention on 7 January 2007. Nobody has reported that Fester Colonel (Doctor) Bill Myers won the Charles Fine Literary Award for best article published in FUN-Topics in 2006 - for his article "AAFES Pogs," based on his best-of-show exhibit at the 2006 FUN convention. Congratulations to Bill. The meeting report contained the following words: "[FUN Education Director Randy] Campbell reported that the winner for 2006 is a surgeon who is now in his 4th tour of duty in Iraq. The surgeon reattaches fingers and repairs knees, and is a 'miracle worker' for many of our young men fighting abroad." Fester Sparky Watson has established a web site for bond images. Visit

<http://picasaweb.google.com/warbons> for illustrations of scores of bonds, with many more yet to be posted. This promises to be a major resource for collectors.

Championship Question Corner

Question 182. Difficulty 3. What is the highest denomination Allied Military schilling note that was printed in the United States?

Yesterday's: Question 181. Difficulty 3. What new method of paying military personnel for unpaid leave was introduced in 1946?

Answers and comments: Robert Drew and Bill Myers correctly answered Armed Forces Leave Bonds.

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Editorial

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Another stamp show purchase is a post card postmarked

Chicago Sep 24, 1943. The message is printed (offset):

Chicago Service Men Centers
Canteen
176 W. Washington Street 430 S. Michigan Avenue
50 E. 49th Street

Mrs. Edward J. Kelly - Chairman

WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH APPRECIATION
YOUR CONTRIBUTION T THE CANTEEN
AT THE SERVICE MEN CENTERS.
PLEASE ACCEPT MY PERSONAL THANKS.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Edward J. Kelly

I think that the signature is rubber stamped rather than printed but I am not certain. Quite remarkably there is a small control number to the left (17377). I think that this might be the job number from the printing company because I cannot believe that the Chicago organization could possibly have had so many printed mailers that they required such control numbers.

Ebay did not yield any hits, but Google gave some hits on the Chicago Service Men Centers:

August 7, 1941-The Chicago Servicemen's Center is launched by the Chicago Commission on National Defense through Mayor Edward J. Kelly at 178 W. Washington, Chicago, Illinois (Note: this facility was operated by the City of Chicago and had been the Elk's building.)

My guess is that some chits, meal cards, or similar items were probably issued for the canteen at the centers. Normally, we do not make discoveries of things like that by thinking of them an searching. Usually, we find the artifact then search for information on the agency. Nonetheless, this seems like an interesting purchase for \$2 this time (as opposed to the \$1 for the card about the AFLB.)

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Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)
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Dear Editor:

In reference to the question of whether there is Army currency, there may be some of this money.

I have "Club Bucks" from Ft. Hamilton Army Garrison in Brooklyn, N. Y. They are issued in \$1 and \$5 denominations to be used on this base only. The Officer's Club, now called the Fort Hamilton Community

Club, is where they are redeemed. The \$1 "buck" is yellow and the \$5 is green. Each is serial numbered and each has an expiration date.

It is a matter of what one considers currency for them to qualify. In any event they are interesting collectibles. If any readers are interested in these items please contact me DADACNT@AOL.COM

J J Sullivan

Dear Esteemed Editor

I have written to you several times since you resurfaced about the Charlotte ANA but nothing is appearing in the Gram. Do I have to telephone the boss to get some results? I will be manning a club table at the Charlotte ANA March 16-18 and there will be the usual IBNS and NI meetings on Saturday morning where Gramsters and other demented civilians and former military may rest their weary legs.

The Master Sergeant Daniel

Dear Editor,

I read your editorial. Good score on the post card. Since this is an easy question and I read it within the first few hours after receiving it, I will give my answer of Armed Forces Leave Bond. Also Fred you were right, I can't stay away, put me down for Fest VIII, the registration is in the mail.

Robert

Robert,

We look forward to seeing you. Thank you too, to others who have sent in registrations. I expect to get the Fest roster back in the Gram this weekend and a draft of the training schedule too.

Editor

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Calendar

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MPCFest: March 23-25 2007 details TBA.

14 and 15 April 2007

The annual "Maastricht" show, officially named "PaperMoney Fair-Maastricht" will take place, with dealer set up on the 13th, at the "Polfermolen" in Valkenburg, Netherlands. For details, view the bourse web site [http:// www.papermoney-maastricht.org/](http://www.papermoney-maastricht.org/) or contact the show organizer, Joe Eijsermans, atapnc.eijsermans@wxs.nl or

eijsermans-events@planet.nl.

ANA Summer semnar
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Memphis 6-8 July

ANA Convention, Milwaukee.

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first.

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Collectors may submit lists of items wanted for their
collections for listing here.

WANTED - JAPANESE INVASION MONEY (JIM).
Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and
block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist
available, Anythinfg unusual is of particular
interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA
66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

Dealers and collectors who have these items, are then
encouraged to list them for sale in the above section
as a reply.

Wanted listings will run for a period of 1 month.

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JoeBoling@aol.com
Friday Columnist: Warner
Talso: wtalso@aol.com Fest Auctioneer: Larry
"Ski"Smulczenski - skitex@cox.net, Critic:Harold Kroll
- HARBONS@aol.com Scholarship Coordinator:
Marcus Turner- marucs@papermoneyworld.net; Webmaster
and Technical Advisors:Doug Bell "Wiz" -

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-russ.walsh@gte.net Fact Checker: Warner Talso
-Calendar Coordinator: John and Nancy Wilson -The
Boss: Judy Schwan

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From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

3/4/2007, 12:36 PM

To:

mpcgram@papermoneyworld.net

MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM

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Series 8, no 1530 Sunday, March 4, 2007

Feller and Feller

The new catalog Silent Witnesses: Civilian Camp Money of World War II will be released at MPC Fest on Saturday morning March 24. Where the authors Ray and Steve Feller will be in attendance for autographs and discussion.

The book covers notes, coins, and postal history of

concentration camps, internment camp, displaced persons camps, and Jewish ghettos.

As a result of collector feedback via the Gram and other sources the book will be printed in full color. This will be the first full color book from the publisher BNR Press. The price of the book had not been announced (decided?) at press time.

Championship Question Corner

Question 183. Difficulty 3. What is the highest denomination Allied Military franc note that was printed in the United States?

Question 182. Difficulty 3. What is the highest denomination Allied Military schilling note that was printed in the United States?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers and Jack Hunter correctly identified the 25 schilling as the highest denomination printed in the US.

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Editorial

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Here are two more stamp show finds. This theme is PROBABLY winding to an end. I actually have lots more purchases, but not too many more that are likely to be of interest to you or are possible to be adequately described by me.

The first is a small selective service postcard (DSS Form No 201, GPO job number 16-18635). It is a notice to registrant to appear for physical examination. It is dated July 10, 1942. All of that is interesting enough but the card also has a wonderful BUY DEFENSE SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS postmark in spite of having no postage as an official business card.

Did you pick up on the introductory comment where I said that it was a small postcard? Yes, it is a 3x5 inches card. I take the size to be a deliberate move to save paper. Of course that is a well known theme during the war for which we have numismatic examples--specifically the reduction in size of war bonds. Probably the small size of the low denomination AM lire, francs, and marks are also examples. All of the above were the reasons for buying the card (a little more than I paid for the other item discussed previously--\$2.50 (marked that, I probably paid \$2)).

It is only now that I notice the most interesting thing. On July 10, 1942, the post mark should have been advertising WAR rather than DEFENSE bonds. We know that the existing stocks of defense bonds were sold until exhausted (as an economy measure). It seems to me that this late use of the defense cancel was another conservation measure. Why stop using the old

one if it still works.

This discussion turned out to be longer than I expected and Harold Kroll just called to chat so I will save the other item for tomorrow.

=====

Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Greetings,

Well if I had not been collecting WW II orders and medals of the world I would guess that the premier edition of "World War II Remembered" would have been rather sparsely illustrated for these. I'd guess many of the original survivors of the war recipients have gone to the beyond.

Collecting is educational, while preserving historical artifacts and sharing information is wonderful. Establishing market values for these items keeps them in a fluid state so to speak to travel until they find a resting spot being coddled by a serious collector. Not

decaying in some uninterested institution.

Looking beyond our shores the London auctions have been loaded with great collections of worldwide O & M with eager buyers establishing record prices in many cases.

Go to Google and type in WW II Remembered when you have a chance.....sure brings up a lot of sites.....

Cheers,

Colin

Hello Fellow Collector's,

I appreciate the response's from fellow gramsters Dave Klinger, Roger Urce, Flemming Hansen, Flt Lt Andrew M Clark, Joe Boling, and our esteemed editor.

You guys are right, the Act, could have been written much better. The purpose and original intent of the Act was to keep people who did not earn an award, from passing themselves off as a legitimate recipient and thus stealing their Valor. As Flt Lt Andrew M Clark wrote "The Act referred to appears to be using a sledgehammer to crack a nut." After reading everyone's thoughts on the matter, I now feel, after reflection, that collecting of medals is okay. Joe is right, most collectors are descent people who research and educate, as well as value and take care of the items in their collection. Many do it better than so called professionals. This Act needs to be amended. Okay folks, if we agree, lets all write something we can all send off to our representatives, so they can fix the Act.

Gavin Quinn

PS: I just finished reading about how the wounded

outpatient Soldiers and Marines and their families are being treated at Walter Reed AMC and I am sick. I feel we need to write our representatives about this tragedy also. I believe the answer to the Quiz Question is 20 schillings.

Dear Gramsters,
Anyone out there need a roommate for Memphis? I need a new one (long story on the old one).

Harold Kroll

Dear Esteamed Editor:
I side with those who believe the writers of the legislation related to selling or buying of military medals are wasting their time and our money. They surely have better things to do than that. I
"wear" the medals, decorations, devices, etc. I was awarded in my shadow box and alternate with pride for the recognition and embarrassment that I was talked into getting them out of the old foot locker. Collectors collect!

Rusty
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Calendar
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WANTED SECTION:

Collectors may submit lists of items wanted for their collections for listing here.

WANTED - JAPANESE INVASION MONEY (JIM).

Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist available, Anything unusual is of particular interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA 66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

Dealers and collectors who have these items, are then encouraged to list them for sale in the above section as a reply.

Wanted listings will run for a period of 1 month.

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3/5/2007, 2:16 PM
To:
mpcgram@papermoneyworld.net

MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM
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Series 8, no 1531 Monday, March 5, 2007

MPC Fraud

by Jim Downey

Although one of the purposes of MPC was to curtail black market activities near US military installations overseas, in some cases the MPC system allowed certain individuals the opportunity to engage in other financial shenanigans. The case of Major Thomas Pate illustrates how one person was able to manipulate the system on a grand scale at least for a while anyway.

Major Pate was the Chief Finance Officer at Tachikawa Air Force Base in Japan in 1953. In that position he oversaw the finance offices of three other installations in Japan as well. Tachikawa was the collection point for worn out and mutilated MPC. Major

Pate was also responsible for supervising the destruction of the unserviceable notes.

Unserviceable notes were retained until enough had been acquired to warrant destroying them by burning which was about every other month. The finance officer turned the notes over to a destruction committee of three other officers who were responsible for supervising the actual destruction. The notes were counted by finance personnel prior to the destruction committee taking possession of the notes. Schedules of destruction that included the total amount of MPC to be destroyed by denomination were also prepared by the finance office prior to turning the notes over to the committee. No record of the serial numbers of the notes to be destroyed was made. The committee was supposed to verify the amounts on the destruction schedules by counting all the notes themselves.

Major Pate noticed that the committee never actually counted all the notes when they took possession. The finance office bound the notes in packets of 100 which were then bundled together in groups of 10 so each bundle had 1,000 notes. The committee only counted the number of bundles to determine the amount and verify it against the destruction schedule. Occasionally, a committee member would do a spot check of notes in a bundle. One of the parties that testified at the court-martial indicated that there were typically 48 bundles of \$5.00 and \$10.00 notes prepared for destruction. That is 48,000 notes for each denomination at one time!

In addition to being finance officer, Major Pate was also the cash control officer. This gave him control over the money in the vault. He identified that the internal counting controls were lax. The only accounting done for the vault was a monthly report of the amount in the vault on the last day of the month. There was no reconciliation from month to month of the balance in the vault against transactions. The monthly balance also did not distinguish between US greenback currency and MPC.

All of this allowed Major Pate to engage in the not too sophisticated practice of replacing \$10.00 notes from the bundles to be destroyed with \$5.00 notes from the vault after they had been counted by the finance office. He replaced the \$10.00 notes the vault and removed half that amount in greenbacks since they replaced the \$5.00 notes he inserted in the bundles that were destroyed. He sent the excess money to the United States .

In March 1953 he managed to net \$17,500.00 from this exercise. From March to June 1953 he acquired an additional \$7,000.00. From July to September, the amount jumped to \$85,000.00. In October he had a big score when he falsified the destruction

schedule to be \$100,000.00 greater than the amount actually destroyed.

He eventually became uncomfortable sending such large sums of money through the mail and worked another scheme to get it home. This involved endorsing checks that were cashed at the finance cage to himself and forwarding the checks to his bank in the United States. He could make the office accounts balance by putting an equivalent amount of money into the vault.

Like many people in similar circumstances, Major Pates excess became his undoing. He used his ill-gotten gain to purchase a number of big ticket items including a house in Japan (\$2,800.00), \$15,000.00 in savings bonds, \$13,178.00 in premiums on a life insurance policy, the Del Mar Apartments in San Gabriel CA (\$50,265.00), a new Cadillac, a poultry farm in California (\$31,250.00) and paid down a loan of \$3,094.00. When he was finally caught, he had an additional \$60,000.00 stuffed in his shaving kit in his desk in the finance office.

He pled guilty to 21 counts of larceny and 1 count of illegally possessing US currency. He was sentenced to 7 years confinement, dismissal from the service and paid over \$200,000.00 in restitution.

The notes in use would have been Series 481 MPC. This is the last series for which the \$5.00 and \$10.00 notes were the same size. Series 521 had already been printed prior to the Pate case but it is possible that similar cases or a general confusion of similar looking notes of different denominations may have prompted the reduction in size.

Championship Question Corner

Question 183. Difficulty 1. What was the last series of MPC with the \$5 denomination the same size as the \$10?

Yesterdays Question 182.Question 183. Difficulty 3. What is the highest denomination Allied Military franc note that was printed in the United States?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers and Jack Hunter correctly identified the 5000 franc as the highest denomination printed in the US. Jack correctly pointed out that this is hardly a difficulty 3.

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Editorial

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I often introduce myself as Judy's driver. It is even more true than normal since she had her operation on Jan 15. She has not driven a mile since then although she has ridden many. There is a silver lining. Yesterday I had to drive her to Walmart for some pressing need. I looked at computer monitors because I want to add a second one to my home setup. Cannot pull

the trigger, but I continue to be interested. Near that section was a large selection of movie DVDs. I looked casually and one stood out--Victory at Sea. This was a three DVD set of the 26 episodes of the classic newsreels from World War II. I remember watching them on Saturday mornings in the 1950s. I watched because there were no cartoons, but I learned. I snatched the DVD set. I then studied the hundreds of other titles. This was the only nonfiction title in the selection. For a long time I thought that it was the only copy, but eventually I found two more copies that had clearly been pushed to the back by the natural selection process of the under 30 purchasers of DVDs. I consider that the location of the one copy where I could find it a miracle. I have not started watching them yet, but I am excited about doing it. Get this. The set was \$5.50. I considered buying the other two sets, but did not. I might go back and get them, but I suggest that you call your Walmart if you are interested. Alternatively, I will go buy the remaining two at our Walmart for the first two who claim them.

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Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)
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Dear Editor,
Geesh I think I miss-spelled institution but I can't use my spell checker here as it keeps changing "Colin" to "Coleen."

As for Feller & Feller....does their new book have the 50th anniversary of the closing of the Vilnius, Lithuania ghetto... set of 1, 2, 5, 20, 50 and 100 Shalomi Jewish ghetto scrip 1943-2003 listed in it? Well printed and multicolored.....very attractive. I have three sets handy for \$35/set insured postpaid if anyone is interested.

Cheers,

Colin

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MPCGram 1532
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MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
3/7/2007, 12:17 PM
To:
mpcgram@papermoneyworld.net

MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM

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Series 8, no 1532 Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Feller and Feller Progressing

Silent Witnesses by Ray and Steve Feller is progressing routinely through the manufacturing process according to reports from the printer. The proofs were approved last week.

One interesting (stupid) mistake was found. The title on the spine was not the same as the front cover! The incorrect title was Silent Witnesses: World War II Civilian Camp Money rather than the correct ...Civilian Camp Money of World War II. The error was corrected and the error proof cover was retained (as an expensive) souvenir for the Fellers.

Some of the details have been finalized. The book will sell for \$35. Prepublication estimates had been as high as \$65, but the publisher stated that the support of advertisers: Mel Steinberg, David Seelye, Bill Rosenblum, Ian Marshall, Krause Publications and others allowed this bargain pricing. The book will be unveiled at MPC Fest on the morning

of March 24 and a book signing will follow immediately. Non Festers who would like to attend are welcome.

Additional book signings are will be held in April in Cedar Rapids, Boston and (hopefully) other places.

Championship Question Corner

Question 184. Difficuly 1. Who wrote the standard reference book on POW and concentration camp money of the 20th Century?

Yesterdays Question 183. Difficuly 1. What was the last series of MPC with the \$5 denomination the same size as the \$10?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers and Jack Hunter correctly identified Series 481 as the last series with the \$5 and \$10 the same size. By implication then, Seires 521 was he first with the reduced size \$5.

===== Editorial

=====
I have started watching the Victory at Sea videos. Some of the scenes I have seen many times in other places, a few I have seen a few times elsewhere, and many, many are new to me. There is some great WWII video here, but I have not seen a hint of anything numismatic--yet.

Back to the stamp show purchases. I bought several covers demonstrating veraious aspects of the war. I am

not very familiar with the rules and implementation of censorship, but it was more widespread than I thought. Certainly, I knew that all letters coming from overseas theaters of operation were censored. I do not think that domestic mail was censored, and

I did not think that civilian international mail was censored. Apparently I was wrong. I have a cover here from the show from Mexico to Long Island dated 13 (possibly 18) September 1943. It was opened and resealed with classic censorship tape. The tape at the left says EXAMINED BY 40012. That is interesting enough, but only now did I even bother to look at the stamp.

It is a beauty! It is a standard size definitive World War II patriotic stamp! It has a beautiful striding miss (decidedly miss) Liberty striding right lifting a torch and carrying a sword in a menacing manner and wearing a helmet. She is circled by a ring of stars. At first count I thought that there were 12 stars for the original 12 Festers. Then in a nationalcentric moment I thought that there were 13 stars for the original 13 American colonies (how stupid was that though!). Now I think that there are 14 or 15 stars. I do not know enough (much at all really) about Mexican history and lore to know if those have significance to Mexico.

The main legend is in line with the theme: America unida defiende su libertad--America united defends its liberty.

I do not know what happened to my world wide stamp catalog. It is not on my shelf where it should have been. Wait, I see on a top shelf my world wide stamp album from the 1960s (possibly 1950s). I will climb the ladder and pull it down. It was hard to get to. Actually, it was easy to get to, it was the ladder that was hard to get to! Nonetheless, I pulled it down and found Mexico. The stamp is illustrated.

Unfortunately, I did not have the stamp in the album (had none on that entire two page spread). I had hoped to discover that the stamp was part of a set, but if it is it is not clear from the album. Nor could I find any other WWII related stamps.

The internet did not do me any good. I could not find a source to purchase single stamps of Mexico or any good information. I was sure that I would find a place with the stamp illustrated and I could put up a link here so that you could see this beauty. I hope that it is as common as US stamps of that era so that I can find some sheets (or at least a lot of unused singles) to use for souvenirs.

Any ideas out there? Oh yes, price of the cover (now lost on my desktop) \$1.50.

=====

Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

=====

Dear Esteamed Editor:

I side with those who believe the writers of the legislation related to selling or buying of military medals are wasting their time and our money. They surely have better things to do than that. I

"wear" the medals, decorations, devices, etc. I was awarded in my shadow box and alternate with pride for the recognition and embarrassment that I was talked into getting them out of the old foot locker. Collectors collect!

Rusty

Dear Rusty,

I have a spot reserved for you at the Fest. Is this the year?

Steamed Editor

Dear Editor,

I have been receiving two copies of the Gram.

Joe

Dear Joe,

Please give the extra copy to a young numismatist, or even a not so young collector who has not yet discovered military numismatics.

I am sorry, but we had to reduce the length of your subscription by the number of duplicates that you have recieved. If you continue to recieve duplicates, you will soon owe us Grams. Please send them soon.

Editor

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Calendar

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MPCFest: March 23-25 2007 details TBA.

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Memphis 6-8 July

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WANTED - JAPANESE INVASION MONEY (JIM).

Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and
block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist
available, Anythinfg unusual is of particular
interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA
66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

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Subject:
MPCGram 1533
From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
3/8/2007, 6:11 PM
To:
mpcgram@papermoneyworld.net

MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM
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Series 8, no 1533 Thursday, March 8, 2007

MPC Radio!!

by Jim Downey

Like Alexander Flemings discovery of penicillin, many of the discoveries that researchers make are purely accidental. I had one of those today that I simply have to share with the Gram audience.

I was researching some online collections for information concerning exchange rates between US dollars, MPC and the Vietnamese piastre when I ran across an archive of clips from Armed Forces Radio Viet Nam (AFVN). In the days before the internet and instant global communications, the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS) was one of the few links between overseas installations and the US. When I was in Korea in 1995-96, AFKN was the only English language TV broadcast in the Second Infantry Division area.

Among the sound clips available as MP3 files, there were four that I found that would be of interest. They are: 1) one cautioning GIs to limit their spending of piastres; 2) one warning against black market activities; 3) one reminding MPC holders that they could not have more than \$1,000.00 in MPC in their possession; and (saving the best for last) 4) the announcement of the conversion from Series 681 to Series 692.

The files can be accessed at the following sites. Since they are MP3 formats, they should play on any computer.

<http://www.papermoneyworld.net/grams/1500-1599/GramSoundFiles/>

While I am on the subject of the media . . . This Saturday (March 10) at 9pm ET /PT 8pm CT 7pm MT, the Discovery Channel is airing a program called Combat Zone: Triangle of Death. It covers the experiences of Marines in the Sunni Triangle during 2004. One of the dramatizations depicted in the episode is the ambush during which my nephew, Sgt. Ben Edinger, was wounded in October 2004. He died as a result of his wounds in November 2004. My correspondence with him concerning the AAFES Pogs was the subject of an article in Gram 1235.

Championship Question Corner

Question 185. Difficulty 1. Who created the first set of Fest notes (that is the notes issued at MPCFest I)?

Yesterdays Question 184. Difficulty 1. Who wrote the standard reference book on POW and concentration camp money of the 20th Century?

Answers and comments: Robert Drew wrote: The answer to today's question, What is the Standard reference book on POW & Concentration Camp Money of the 20th Century, is Lance Campbell whose 2nd Ed Published in 1993 by BNR Press (in beautiful downtown Port Clinton) was done in both softcover and hardback. As a followup, I believe I heard that the best book that will be published in the 21st Century, on POW money will be by Larry Smulezenski. Lets hope he doesn't get behind, the on time schedule for the next edition of WW11. Speaking of Larry, unless I missed it I have not heard anything lately about the scholarship auction. Are we having one this year?, can we bring stuff for it or does it need to be mailed in early?? G. W. Slade, Jack Hunter, and (surprise, surprise) Bill Myers also submitted correct answers.

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Editorial

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I just had a short conversation with Jim Downey which was a virtual rerun of one that I had with Warner Talso about war bonds. It is one of those little terminology matters about which I seem to get more worked up than others. Of course I argue that the terminology is important for communications and hence for our research. This is a case in point. Warner called to discuss some bonds that he had seen. His descriptoin seemed to be in conflict with what the bond should have been based upon the issue date that he told me. We worked it out, but here is the problem. US war bonds have two dates. The issue date is identified as such on the bond and is the date from which interest is paid. The other date is the date on which the issuer created (issued) that bond. Normally, this date is the month after the issue date although they can be the same. I do not think that there are any situations where the issue date (from which interest will be paid) is after the other date.

The question is, what is the name of the second date?, or at least, what should we call this second date? I have been calling it the agency date, but I am not at all pleased with this name. Of course, I would like to find an official name for it, but fialing that we need to create one.

What do you

think?=====

Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Editor,

So what's all the BS you put out when you were asking about whether the book should be in color, to wit: It boils down to this, would you rather have a book in black and white at \$20-25 or one in color at \$45-50? Are you getting this book produced in color cheap enough for a \$35 retail?

Dear Joe,

Gee, tell us how you really feel! Actually, I expected some comments after the announcement of the final price. After the first decision to publish a book, the two biggest decisions a publisher makes are: How many? and How much? That is how many to produce and how much to charge. Of course these are interrelated issues since the quantity produced greatly impacts the unit price of the books. Then of course the price likely greatly impacts the number sold. This is not to say that the price of a book depends upon manufacturing (printing) costs. Far too many people make this connection. The price of manufacturing is often a relatively small part of the total cost of creating a book. Nonetheless, the cost of manufacturing is important. One reason for this is that it is the largest expense right at the time of publication.

Do you remember the long discussion we had about the price that World War II Remembered should sell for? It took place exactly where I am sitting now. It was probably in early 1995. The book was about finished. Of course the most critical step in publishing had been skipped for that book (just as it was for Silent Witnesses). We did not analyze the market and expenses to estimate if we could make money. Instead, since we had made the decision to create the book based on passion, we had to decide what was the right number and hope that that would include some sort of profit or at least pay out of pocket expenses.

If you really want to know, one of the keys in the Feller & Feller case is that the enthusiasm of the authors and Gramsters encouraged us (me) to order more copies than I had initially planned. I then decided to use the low price in the hope that that would increase the likelihood of selling enough to make a profit. It does not have to be that way of course. Of course it will be very interesting to see how this book does. It is a good book and I am sure that it will be popular. Does that mean a profit (gasp), well that remains to be seen.

Thanks for the question.

Editor

Dear Esteamed Editor:

Go to Google and type in Mexico stamps dealers
perhaps.....I know of one dealer in CA but cannot find the file
...recent
office move here for re-organizing my heaps and piles has ruined my
efficiency terribly...of course you of all people can understand
that...

Colin

Dear Colin,

Excuse me a minute. Did YOU actually type the word
efficiency? I have SEEN your office. It was my model for
a black hole and I sit at the feet of the master.
I tried all variations of your suggestion. Forgot to
look in my Linn's though (a freebie from the stamp
show) and will work on that.

Editor

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Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist available, Anything unusual is of particular interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA 66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

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Subject:
MPCGram 1534 (corrected--with new championship question)
From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
3/11/2007, 9:35 PM
To:
mpcgram@papermoneyworld.net

MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM

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Series 8, no 1534 Sunday, March 11, 2007

Ultimate Bond Info

by Jim Downey

I recently put in two requests under the Freedom of Information Act for information concerning the issuing and redemption of Series E, Series, F and Series G Savings Bonds; Armed Forces Leave Bonds; and Adjusted Service Bonds. One request went to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The other went to the Bureau of Public Debt.

The initial request went to the BEP in December. In mid-February, I received an email response suggesting that I contact the Bureau of Public Debt so I sent the same request there. Last week, I received a call from the BEP. It was from Cynthia Werkheimer who is the curator at the BEP. She wanted to gather more information concerning my request. I told her that I thought that was odd since I had just received an email response from them telling me to look elsewhere. She apologized for the confusion and wanted to know what she could do to help. After a brief discussion, she directed me to another BEP employee with whom I have not made contact yet.

When I returned from CPMX on Saturday night there was a letter waiting forme from the Bureau of Public Debt. It was rather formal and only contained some of the information I was looking for which I will get to shortly. Some of the information they did not have but some of it is being deliberately withheld under exceptions to the Freedom of Information Act. What information have they chosen to withhold? The serial number ranges for the bonds by type and denomination. It was withheld on the grounds that it relates "solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the agency" and that it consists of "trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person that is privileged or confidential."

I fail to see how the information requested fits into either of these categories. The last section of the letter defined my appeal rights if I want to pursue the information they have withheld. Will I bother to do so? No, because the BEP has the information and is willing to share it but I have not received it yet.

Here is the information that I did get from the BPD. It consists of the total number of bonds issued by denomination for Series E, Series F and Series G. Unfortunatley, the totals include all Series E bonds and not just those from the War Bond era. Nonetheless, the data is interesting. I have observations concerning the information but I will

save that for another day.

Series E Issued Unredeemed

\$10.00	20,501,755	109,597
\$25.00	2,854,997,259	32,857,933
\$50.00	978,609,426	14,608,490
\$75.00	42,004,726	1,131,493
\$100.00	517,581,951	9,621,718
\$200.00	40,408,002	1,388,692
\$500.00	54,751,448	1,361,281
\$1,000.00	55,400,823	1,450,386
\$5,000.00	20,501,755	109,597
\$10,000.00	113,336	1,946
\$100,000.00	186	
0		

Series F

\$25.00	1,187,839	6,505
\$100.00	1,709,087	2,134
\$500.00	567,677	209
\$1,000.00	1,572,675	314
\$5,000.00	245,436	22
\$10,000.00	341,524	8

Series G

\$100.00	5,412,717	3,936
\$500.00	3,025,402	813
\$1,000.00	6,959,999	955
\$5,000.00	838,989	66
\$10,000.00	1,022,895	14

Championship Question Corner

Question 186. Difficulty 2. What is the highest and lowest denomination British Military Authority note?

Yesterdays Question 185. Difficulty 1. Who created the first set of Fest notes (that is the notes issued at MPCFest I)?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers wrote: This was before I caught the MN (Military Numismatist) bug. My first guess would be Fed Schwan but that is too obvious. I would say the late Leo May. [No, the answer is Harold Kroll. An important aspect of the question is where can you find the answer? Basically, we will not ask questions that have not been documented (reported) somewhere. Although this can include reports in the Gram, it generally means in reference book form. The answer to today's question is documented in Al Glasers Fest Money Remembered.]

=====

Editorial

=====

Yes, there is going to be a Fest. To my amazement I received feedback from CPMX that there was some doubt in the minds of some Festers and potential Festers. While it is true that I am behind in the obvious preparations like published trainging schedule and list of Festers, we have been slaving here in Festland and look forward to everyone arriving on March 22 or 23. Two weeks from now, Fest 8 (yes, eight, can it be true?) will be history.

Just Friday the secure finance truck arrived and unloaded a secret cargo (shsh, do not tell anyone). I expect that just like all of the previous Fests, this will be the biggest and best ever. Remember, there is a bourse on Friday March 23 that is open to everyone. If you cannot come for the Fest, at least come for the bourse!

Jim Downey has certainly done some great research. I am humbled and proud to have his reports here in the Gram. The data provided above is spectacular. It documents the rarity that we have been talking about for many of the WWII bond issues. Thank you, Jim.

=====

Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

=====

Dear Editor,

Hey. Sign me up for Fest.

Also, all you Festers out there should search www.youtube.com for Fest treasures. There are only two so far but more are forthcoming.

Looking forward to seeing all again.

Doc

Jim Downey should be promoted to the rank of HMFIC of MFRN.

That's Head Military Fest'er In Charge of Military Fest Radio Network. (What did you think it meant?)

Official orders should be cut ASAP and made known immediately. That is some outstanding research!

Way to go Jim.

Jack 21

Dear Editor,

Howabout"process date"?

Steve Jinks

Dear Steve,

See below for more on this.

Editor

Dear Editor

These are earth-shaking questions of a profound nature [the naming of the respective dates on US war bonds].

These are the words on the bonds, themselves. Keep in mind we are talking about small size U.S. bonds.

The "ISSUE DATE" is a typed month and year. A bond starts drawing interest as of the first day of that month and year.

The second date is the month, day, and year contained in the Issuing agency's stamp. It is the same or later month(I have seen up to two months) than the ISSUE DATE. This is called the "ISSUING AGENT'S DATING STAMP". A cumbersome name, but is what the bond says.

The difference between these two dates is of little interest, that I can determine, except when the bond has been reissued - usually because of loss or change of beneficiary.

The ISSUING AGENT'S DATING STAMP may be of interest because of some unusual feature. During WWII many entities, e.g., banks, federal agencies, employers, and others, issued bonds.

Warner

Dear Warner,

It seems like the shortened version that is possible to catch on is AGENCY DATE. I do like it because it infers the actual situation where there were MANY agencies. Many of those different agencies are worthy of collecting on their own right.

I am putting agency date in the manuscript.

Editor

=====

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Subject:

MPCGram 1536
From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
3/13/2007, 9:44 PM
To:
mpcgram@papermoneyworld.net

MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM
=====
Series 8, no 1536 Wednesday, March 14,
2007

Fest VII Draft Training Schedule

Date/time Activity Personnel Trainer
Tuesday 20 March
0830-0900 breakfast @ Holiday Inn all personnel Kim
0930-1700 work detail arrives Ski, Harold, Fred
The Boss

Wednesday 21 March
0830-0900 breakfast @ Holiday Inn all personnel Kim
0930-1700 Fest preparations work detail Fred
1700-2300 Fish Fry Jolly Roger The Boss

Thursday 22 March
0800-1900 hotel registration individuals Kim
0830-0900 breakfast @ Holiday Inn all personnel Kim
0930-1700 Bourse preparations select personnel
David
1900-2100 bourse banquet @ Big Boppers all available
Judy, Ken
2100-2400 bowling challenge all available Doug
Bell
2400- bull session/swap meet all available Ski

Friday 23 March
0800-1900 hotel registration individuals Kim
0830-0900 breakfast @ Holiday Inn all personnel Kim
0830-1000 bourse set up work detail and dealers
David
1000 bourse and Fest registration open all personnel
Loretta
1000-1800 bourse all available David
auction submission/viewing all interested Ski
1730-1900 new Fester training new Festers Doug,
Warner
1800-1930 chow all personnel Kim

1900-1930 exhibits installed exhibitors Joe
2000-2030 pay call by company paymasters
2200-2300 March madness round 1 all personnel TBA
2300-2330 bull session by company 1SGs
2330 exhibits must be removed exhibitors Joe
2331 px, canteen closed, casino Dick
2400 lights out by company 1SGs

Saturday 24 March

0400-0600 10k run, 3k swim (ice permitting) all
personnel 1SG
0730-0830 chow all personnel Kim
0800-0830 sick call sick and lame Cuneyd
0830-0845 bn picture mess hall Hardies
0845-0915 autograph party all personnel (bring short
snorders) Fred
0915-1100 show n tell all personnel 1SG
1100-1230 March Madness all personnel TBA
1245-1315 chow all personnel Kim
1315-1630 show n tell all personnel 1SGs
1630-1745 show n tell all personnel 1SGs
1745-1800 nap individual
1800-1845 chow & birthday party all personnel Kim
1745-1900 Bond Drive V (concurrent) interested
collectors Warner
1900-1930 March Madness finals all personnel TBA
1930-1945 Poker training all players Brad
2000-2400 military poker game reenactment all
personnel Brad
2000-2100 auction lot viewing (concurrent) all
personnel Ski
2400 canteen & casino close, lights out
2401 bed check

Sunday 25 March

0400-0600 10k run, 3k swim (ice permitting) all
personnel 1SG
0700-0745 sick call (by appointment) all sickies
Cuneyd
0730-0800 chow all personnel Kim
0700-0730 destruction of obsolete MFC select personnel
Fred
0730-0830 auction lot viewing optional Ski
0845-1030 auction all personnel Ski
1030-1045 awards all personnel Ed Beaman
1100-1230 police call and early departures select
personnel Sparky
1230-1315 chow all personnel mess sgts
1315-1500 field trip Veterans museum by reservation
Judy
1500-1800 pool party Jodi Foster

Monday 14 March

0830-0900 breakfast @ Holiday Inn all remaining

personnel Kim
0900- field trip Ford Museum, Dearborne, MI
1900 local poker game (FRNs required) select
personnel

Tuesday 15 March
0700-0730 breakfast Holiday Inn
0730-2100 field trip to Air Force Museum select
personnel (reservations required)

Coordinating instructions:
Problems etc contact the battalion clerk at 419 732
6683 before March 20; after March 20 call clerk
(Schwan) at 419 732 7322 (Holiday Inn), or 419 349
1872 (Schwan cell phone) alternate cell 419 202 0106
(Boss cell)

Arrival/departure coordination: Mark C. Watson
mcwatson@yahoo.com
Auction items coordinate: Larry Smulczenski
skifla@cox.net
Exhibits contact joeboling@aol.com

Bond drive (blast): wtalso@aol.com

Remarks: Saturday poker game will be a Texas holdem
tournament with \$25MFC buy in.

Holiday Inn Express, 50 NE Catawba Road, Port Clinton,
Ohio 43452 419 732 7322 (remember, if you have a Fest
reservation, you have a room reservation. Do not call
to confirm, they have it.)

Championship Question Corner
Question 187. Difficuly 3. Name three past Fest
Championship contest winners.

Yesterdays Question 187. Difficuly 3. Name three past
Fest Championship contest winners.

Answers and comments: The championship winners are (I
think): Marcus Turner, Jim Downey, Jack Hunter, and
Jim Downey. The only source for this information (for
now) is the Gram. This seems like something that
should be listed in each edition of the MPC book.

=====

Editorial

=====

Fester Tolek gave me a t-shirt a few years ago. It has
a Nike brand symbol (upside down) and the catchy
phrase: Just Put It Off. I guess that I should adopt
that as my slogan. Indeed, possibly I can have it put
on the next series of Fest notes. (We must always have
a set ready even if there is no need or likely need.)

Anyway, I am pleased to (finally) publish a draft training schedule. Please look it over for mistakes. It is critical that we fine tune the schedule since we have a reputation of following it the minute (choke). In spite of some of the late info, the excitement is building. I am excited and I know that many others are as well. Of course you can also anticipate that there might be a surprise or two. I hope to publish the battalion roster tomorrow. I am behind in compiling that too. I have not heard from several old timers whom I am sure are coming. It would be great if you contacted me (soon) confirming details of your arrival etc.

=====
Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)
=====

I've gotten some inputs for Festers looking for rides, but to date, I have not gotten any drivers. So, if you are traveling through Detroit, Cleveland, or Toledo, and don't mind picking someone up, please let me know.

Thanks, Sparky
mcwatson@yahoo.com

=====
Calendar
=====

2007

MPCFest: March 23-25 2007 details TBA.

14 and 15 April 2007

The annual "Maastricht" show, officially named "PaperMoney Fair-Maastricht" will take place, with dealer set up on the 13th, at the "Polfermolen" in Valkenburg, Netherlands. For details, view the bourse web site [http:// www.papermoney-maastricht.org/](http://www.papermoney-maastricht.org/) or contact the show organizer, Joe Eijsermans, atapnc.eijsermans@wxs.nl or eijsermans-events@planet.nl.

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Memphis 6-8 July

ANA Convention, Milwaukee.

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Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist available, Anything unusual is of particular interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA 66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

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3/17/2007, 5:46 PM

To:

mpcgram@papermoneyworld.net

MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM

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Series 8, no 1537 Saturday, March 17, 2007

Don't Drink the Water

We have received information about a potentially dangerous situation. We cannot conclude that it is anything other than the water served at MPC Fest. First, Festers Joe and Louis Boling got married. Not only did they marry, but they married each other and at the Fest no less. Then David Seelye married. While all of this was going on, Kim the Fest hotel manager and Wendy the hotel night manager also got married. Now we have heard that Wendell Wolka is going to do the same. Of course, Fest Hedquarers offers and suggests the Fest as an ideal venue. Indeed, we might consider having a Fest Wedding Fair sometime in the future. Until that time, we can only suggest that you do not drink the water.

Fest Lottery

MPCFest has had Fest lottery (as a WWII reenactment of course) for several years. According to Fest lottery officer Ed Beaman, for the first time the Fest lottery is being made available to nonFesters.

Lottery prizes have been improving over the years with this year's being the best ever. Prizes have not been finalized (donations still being accepted), but they include a specimen set of Fest bonds (possibly unique), pattern Fest coin, Fest coins, numismatic books, publisher's mock ups of the new Feller n Fell book. Commemorative Fest lottery tickets are themselves collected by Festers and others. Tickets are \$1MFC each or six for \$5MFC. The tickets are sold only for current MFC (series 061). Collectors with MFC can send in thier MFC or use the reservation system below. As a courtesy Gramsters and others who are interested can convert US Federal Reserve notes to the extent of ticket purchases.

If you want to buy tickets (six ticket minimum). Reserve your tickets by sending an email here to the Gram. Your tickets will be purchased from the lottery officer and held by a reliable party (the Boss?) through the drawing. Then send your payment (FRN or MFC to Fest HQ or via PayPal). As a bonus prizes will be mailed to all winning players at no charge!

Championship Question Corner

Question 188. Difficulty 3. What does UNRRA stand for relative to numismatics and why is it of interest to us.

Yesterdays Question 187. Difficulty 3. Name three past Fest Championship contest winners.

Answers and comments: The championship winners are (I think): Marcus Turner, Jim Downey, Jack Hunter, and Jim Downey. The only source for this information (for now) is the Gram. This seems like something that should be listed in each edition of the MPC book.

=====

Editorial

=====

I am preparing this Gram on Wednesday (miracle of miracles) for Thursday delivery although I may send it out this evening in lite of the following. I just learned that (quite fittingly) 3.14 is Pi day! It is also (quite fittingly) Einstein's birthday. In spite of being interesting, how can this possibly have a numismatic connection to justify comment in the Gram. Hm, well that is an interesting question. One thought is that this is a good design idea for Fest money. This is especially true since by coincidence Fest money has usually been issued in March. Of coruse this is just a coincidence, becuae a financial emergency can happen at any time requiring a new issue, and conversely it is possible that a given MFC could remain in circulation for several years. Now I have slipped a few more days and it is Saturday! Fest preparations are driving me a bit crazy, but the excitement is really buidling. I have not heard from a few Festers who I am sure are coming. I hate to publish a list with assumptions and even if the assumptions are correct, I cannot be sure of when you are coming etc., so PLEASE email or call me.

=====

Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Editor,

I'm over in Toledo Wednesday then to Fest HQ on Thursday. Anyone need a ride from Toledo or Detroit on Thursday? The 10K run is not that bad, but the 3K swim is actually a pretty healthy distance, actually longer than a half ironman distance swim at 2K. I would suggest sometime along a 1.5K.

Cheers,

Thanks, Sparky

mcwatson@yahoo.com

Dear Gram,

Just a quick question regarding the schedule. What's the difference between exhibits and show-n-tell? Don't we do that when explaining the exhibits? Do we need to have different materials to show-n-tell, or what? Please clarify! Tanksalot.
Neil

Dear Neil,

That is a very good question. First, we encourage everyone to bring a show n tell be it elaborate or one small item. This has not been so clear in the past, so I am stating it very cleraly right now. In addition, we have some display cases that are available to lay out elaborate or extenstive exhibits/show n tells. There is no need for this group to have an elaborate display with lots of explanation. This is a relatively homogenous group of collectors so you can just lay material in the cases. Does this answer the question?

Editor

=====

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=====

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MPCGram 1538
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Date:
3/18/2007, 10:37 PM

To:
mpcgram@papermoneyworld.net

MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM
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Series 8, no 1538 Sunday, March 18, 2007

More MPC Fraud

by Jim Downey

A few Grams ago we examined the case of Major Pate who was able to parlay poor accountability of MPC slated for destruction into a lucrative venture. One of the shortcomings of the MPC system that allowed Major Pate to take advantage of the system was the practice of not accounting separately for MPC and regular US currency. One would think that the military would have tightened its accounting practices after cases like Major Pates came to their attention. The following case of First Lieutenant John A. Mella demonstrates that the Pentagon did not learn its lesson.

1LT Mella was a Class A Finance Agent in Vietnam. Part of his duties included supervising the finance cage where new arrivals to Vietnam traded their US currency for MPC. He took US currency from the finance office and traded it for MPC downrange on the blackmarket. Although US currency and MPC officially traded one-for-one, the blackmarket paid a premium for US currency over MPC. He then returned the equivalent amount of MPC to the vault and retained the difference. He realized about 35% on each transaction.

The interesting part about 1LT Mella's case is what the Court of Military Appeals said about MPC. Mella was charged with larceny. Larceny requires that the defendant intend to permanently deprive the true owner of property. The parties in Mella's case stipulated that his intention at all times was to replace the US green dollars with the equivalent in MPC. The Military Board of Review that heard the initial case determined that he could not be found guilty of larceny because he did not have the intent to permanently deprive the government of the money that he took from the vault since it was replaced with MPC and the accounts of the vault still balanced. Instead, he was only convicted of misappropriation of government property. The military prosecutor appealed the conviction on the grounds that

larceny was the appropriate charge.

The Court of Military Appeals agreed with the prosecutor. The Board of Review took the position that US currency and MPC were monetary equivalents and replacing US currency with MPC was no different than changing two fives for a ten. The Court of Military Appeals determined that US currency and MPC were not monetary equivalents. They supported this position with two arguments. First, they said that because US currency was not legal tender for US military personnel in MPC areas and MPC was legal tender, they were not monetary equivalents. Second, they claimed that the fact US currency and MPC had different values within the host nation's economy also indicated they were not monetary equivalents. The first argument may be tenable but the second one is absurd considering that US currency and MPC were monetary equivalents on US installations -- the jurisdiction where the case was heard.

1LT Mella was initially sentenced to two years confinement, a \$3,000.00 fine and dismissal from service. This sentence was appealed and overturned. There is no record of the sentence he received as a result of the rehearing.

Championship Question Corner

Question 189. Difficulty 3. Where (in what country) were the notes for the Chinese Hau Hsing Commercial Bank printed?

Yesterdays Question 188. Difficulty 3. What does UNRRA stand for relative to numismatics and why is it of interest to us.

Answers and comments: Bill Myers correctly wrote that UNRRA stands for UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION and created Scheinfeld Lithuanian camp money.

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Editorial

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Fest 8 (yes, 8, I can hardly believe it) is just around the corner. After struggling for weeks with preparations, I am now actually ahead in many ways. I am still behind on a reconciled roster and some of that kind of administration, but several other things that I normally only get done during the Fest are now finished and I have at least a few more days to work. I even thought of some ideas for Fest IX and have started a file for it. I have never done that before. Of course a critical part will be having and finding the file a year from now.

Starting with Fest VI, the Fest starts with a bourse on Friday from 10 am to 5:30 pm. This event is open to

everyone, not just Festers who must register for the entire weekend. The bourse is listed in Numismatic News and Bank Note Reporter (I think). It is also advertised on the large hotel maqrue sign for the week before the bourse and every year a few collectors come because of this sign. We also get calls on Friday (and even Saturday) from area collectors who cannot believe that there is a show on Friday only. I look forward to seeing many of you in a few days.

If you had not planned on coming, but can make it happen, we can still fit you in.

=====
Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)
=====

Dear Editor,

I am already married and can't afford a divorce even if I wanted one (which I don't). Guess I better stay away.

Bill

Dear Bill,

I understand your point. Hm, I wonder if in the case of married Festers, the water might work like certain medications frequently advertised on television.

Editor

Dear Editor,

I will take 6 lottery tickets. Do you take POGs in payment?

Bill Myers

Dear Bill,

Well, you caught me off guard on that one (not all that hard). I have consulted all of the relavant regulations. Barring a ruling by Jim Downy, it is my interpretation that forward deployed Festers may indeed pay for Fest lottery tickets with current (only) POGS. Speaking of POGS, we have not had many (any?) reports recently of pog action.

Editor

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Auctioneer: Larry
Columnist at large: Jim Downey
"Ski"Smulczenski - skitex@cox.net, Critic:Harold Kroll

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3/20/2007, 12:01 AM
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MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM
=====
Series 8, no 1539 Monday, March 19, 2007

Fest Bourse Near

The MPC Fest bourse will be Friday, March 23 1000 to
1730. It is being held at the Port Clinton Holiday Inn
Express, 50 NE Catawba Road, Port Clinton, Ohio 43452
(419 732 7322).

The bourse dealers with confirmed tables are:

David Seelye Fred Schwan
BNR Press
Harold Kroll
Carlson Chambliss
Al Galzer
Benton Coin (Bill Yanchick)l Ian Marshall
Keith Bauman
Kevin Neidy

Fester Provile--John Regitko (new
Fester)

John Regitko started collecting coins in the early 1960s when he was employed at a variety store after school. He had seen an advertisement about the rare 1936 dot cent and one day, a customer gave him a 1936 cent in change that indeed had a dot above the date, between smaller than and greater than symbols (<">). He took it to Carmichaels Coin Store located in the Bloor subway entrance on the Yonge Street subway line. Neil Carmichael explained to John that the dot on his coin was on every 1936 cent and was not the rare one which had a smaller dot just below the date.

Carmichael introduced John to Jim Charltons coin catalogue that showed a photo of the rare 1936 dot cent. Customers of the store where John worked tendered a variety of coins in the mid-50s, including 50 cent pieces and silver dollars. What especially caught Johns eye was the fact that Queen Victoria, George V and George VI coinage was still in circulation along with the newer Queen Elizabeth II coins. He put aside all the Queen Victoria and George V coins he came across, as well as the lower-mintage George VI coins. He also started to collect U.S. cents which were readily found in change. He began noticing a number of die breaks in the 10 schooner and 50 George VI pieces as well as in some of the 5 beaver and 25 caribou coins. That got him hooked on varieties, to the point where he went to the bank regularly and obtained bags of cents and dimes to look through. He was lucky enough to find hundreds of die varieties as well as quantities of clips, off-centers and other errors, some of which he still has 4 decades later. The then Executive Secretary of the CNA, Louise Graham, invited John to attend an upcoming meeting of the Toronto Coin Club. He was asked to serve on their executive, initially as a director, later as program director, vice president and, eventually, president. During his presidency, he also retained the titles of program director and editor. His bulletins, up to 18 pages long, won 3 consecutive Best Local Coin Club Bulletin awards from the CNA, a feat never before accomplished by anyone. As well, he also won 3 consecutive Best Local Coin Club Bulletin awards from the ANA against hundreds of clubs from around the world, again a feat never accomplished by anyone.

He attended the founding meeting of the Central Coin Club at the Central Y.M.C.A. in Toronto, where he was elected program director, a position he held for many years, planning weekly meetings (thats right, the club met weekly). The club boasted weekly attendance of over 300 and between 25 to 30 dealers. John also joined the executive of the Canadian Numismatic Variety Collectors Association (CNVCA) and became chairman of their First Annual CNVCA Convention

held in Toronto. Later, he teamed up with Hans Zoell (the father of Canadian error collecting) and others to found the Coin Irregularity Association of Canada (CIAC). He became its vice president and Editor of their monthly publication, the KAYAK, until the association decided to go into hibernation in 1971. During its existence, it boasted a membership of over 400, promoting Canadian error collecting throughout North America. John also chaired the coin exhibit at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto, the worlds largest permanent annual exhibition, for a number of years, winning awards from CNE management for best booth display in the Arts, Crafts, Hobbies Building.

In the 1970s, he gave up all involvement in the hobby because of lack of time, instead concentrating on the computer supplies company he started. Early in 1979, Jack Veffer called on John to ask if he would let his name stand for a position on the executive of the CNA. John told him he couldnt do that because he was not a member of the CNA. Jack told him that it would be taken care of. Jack further told him that he was running for the presidency and wanted John to run as his first-vice president. In case the irony escapes anyone, here is John not even a member of the CNA and he is being asked to let his name stand for the second-highest elected position! His name was published in a subsequent CNA Journal as a new member applicant. Two months later, he was nominated for the first vice-presidency by none less than J. Douglas Ferguson, honorary president of the CNA. He ran unopposed, as he did two years later, in 1981, when he let his name stand for the presidency. He was installed as president at the banquet at the 1981 CNA Convention, of which he was general chairman, by Sheldon S. Carroll, another honorary president of the CNA. Following his stint as CNA President, he was appointed CNA Liaison to the Royal Canadian Mint by subsequent presidents, a position he still holds today. He met many people at the Mint who took the time to explain the minting process in minute detail, which enabled John to publish a series of articles about the Mints inner workings in the CN Journal and Canadian Coin News. It also gave him the accurate knowledge of how errors occur, information which he put to good use as an instructor during the educational seminars at Humber College in Toronto sponsored by the CNA and in speeches to local coin clubs. At the conclusion of his 2-year term as CNA president, he decided to discuss with Leslie and Chuck Moore the purchase of the Toronto International Coin Fair (TICF). After being president of the national hobby group, what do you do, become a member of the executive of some local coin club again? Sounds like

fun, but I wanted something more! The alternative, after being responsible for running a national organization and national conventions, was to run your own national show, John stated. So highly were John's TICF shows...and his organizational skills...thought of that the Ontario Numismatic Association allowed TICF to host their 1986 Convention. Also unprecedented was the fact that the C.N.A. allowed TICF, a privately owned company, to host the 1991 CNA Convention, with John as general chairman. Combining his hobbies of error coin collecting and photography, he created a series of slide presentations involving the minting process and the errors that occur at various stages of production as well as how to authenticate genuine errors, presentations he gives at the Humber College seminars and at local coin clubs. A number of presentations by other collectors that are available for loan from the C.N.A. audio visual lending library were photographed by John. His methodical presentation landed him an assignment

teaching a 20-session, 2-hour numismatic night school course at Yorkdale Secondary School on 4 separate occasions and at the prestigious George Browns Casa Loma campus.

He also organized a 2-day educational seminar (over 2 consecutive Saturdays) in conjunction with various coin clubs around Ontario. John is also a frequent speaker at coin club meetings and at coin club annual banquets where he has earned a reputation of adding humor...and a fantastic array of draw prizes. He has the distinction of having the CNA Executive agree to have him write a column in Canadian Coin News about the inner workings of the CNA, where he pulled no punches in his criticisms when it was due. John also found the time to take on the positions of marketing manager and treasurer of Coiners Press, owned by Jack Veffler, publisher of the book My 2 Cents Worth that received critical acclaim from all reviewers. When John was asked what he considers his numismatic highlight over the 45 years that he has been a collector, his answer came swiftly: The 1991 CNA Convention and everything that happened there! John, as owner/operator of the Toronto International Coin Fair, received the rights to host the C.N.A.'s annual convention, the only time the convention was ever awarded to a private company. It was promoted by John as his farewell swan song, since he was planning of disposing of the assets of the largest coin show in Canada and going into numismatic retirement. We had the biggest registration kit ever at the 91 C.N.A. Convention, John stated. We had more draw prizes than any Canadian convention before and since. We had some of the most fantastic draw prizes at the Banquet, including coin designers original artwork. We had

more numismatic specialty groups meeting there than at any other time that I can recall. But what I remember most about that convention was

when Earl Salterio, Chairman of the CNA Awards Committee at the time, announced the first of the Fellow of the CNA awards and it turned out to be me, followed immediately by the announcement of the Chairman of the Ferguson Foundation, Sheldon S. Carroll, of the highest numismatic award in Canadian numismatics and it again turned out to be me. Here I stood at the podium announcing my retirement from numismatics. I even had a wooden nickel struck saying so. And they showered me with all the C.N.A.s top awards, John stated. Maybe they appreciated me retiring, he quips. So what has happened since his retirement from numismatics in 1991? I have spent more time on my hobby than I did back then. I edited a 48-page bulletin for the Ontario Numismatic Association where you wind up writing a lot of the information yourself that you cull from 30-odd monthly local club bulletins and other sources. He was also appointed Chairman of the Club Services Committee for both the C.N.A. and the ONA. He did give up the Toronto International Coin Fair some time ago. I ran TICF for the fun of it. When I felt I could devote my time towards other projects, including running my computer supplies business, I turned over the registered name and initials to Paul Fiocca of Trajan Publications, owners of Canadian Coin News, who changed the initials TICF to The International Coin Fair and continued to run the show, first in Niagara Falls and finally in its current location in St. Catharines. Following stint as Executive Secretary of the C.N.A. until May 2006 and General Chairman of the 2006 C.N.A. Convention, what is he up to? He currently holds the positions of General Chairman of the 2007 C.N.A. Convention, C.N.A. Liaison to the Royal Canadian Mint and C.N.A. Liaison to future C.N.A. Convention Committees. But his most time-consuming activity is as Editor of the C.N.A. E-Bulletin, currently published every Tuesday and Friday, which he expects to reduce to once a week starting in May. If you are not currently a subscriber to the complimentary E-Bulletin and wish to be added, drop a note to cnanews@look.ca.

Championship Question Corner

Question 190. Difficulty 3. The Ananda Temple at Pagan appears on which general issue of Japanese Invasion Money?

Yesterdays Question 189. Difficulty 3. Where (in what country) were the notes for the Chinese Hau Hsing Commercial Bank printed?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers correctly answered that the notes were printed in Japan.

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Editorial

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There has been a little confusion about the Fest lottery tickets. First, thank you to everyone who has ordered tickets (more remain, hint, hint). The confusion is that if you are a Fester, you can wait till you get here to order/buy your tickets. I do not see any advantage to ordering them ahead except of course for the case of a sell out, but I am sure that Ed will make sure that that does not happen. The bourse is the first event and it is looking like a great event. As I said yesterday (I think). You can come to the bourse even if you are not going to attend the Fest.

=====
Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Editor,

If I may be very commercial, I just listed a batch of 1944 issues of Motor Age magazine on ebay. One of special interest to gramsters may be lot number 130092281518 which has a cover photo of a GI holding a large picture of a \$100 series E war bond. To see my other issues, with lots of war ads and war theme covers, check "gibbsenterprizes" on ebay. Thanks if you can show this. Have a good fest. I will make make one of those someday.

Larry Gibbs

Dear Larry,

We cannot allow such a commercial letter. Sorry.

Editor

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Calendar

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2007

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14 and 15 April 2007

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Memphis 6-8 July

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collections for listing here.

WANTED - JAPANESE INVASION MONEY (JIM).

Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and
block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist
available, Anythinfg unusual is of particular
interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA
66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

Dealers and collectors who have these items, are then
encouraged to list them for sale in the above section
as a reply.

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Boss: Judy Schwan

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MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM
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Series 8, no 1540 Thursday, March 12, 2007

Fest Activity Starts

The advanced party arrived at Camp May on Tuesday.
In spite of all of the work to be done, everyone found
time to play with, exchange, buy, sell, trade and lie
about notes. Some big deals are rumored to be cooking.
Hopefully, news will follow.

In a first, the Fest Casino opened early this year
and also introduced a surprise first. The 2006 Fest
quarter has the portrait of Harold "First Fester"
Kroll. These coins work in the gaming machines in the
casino and of course are also valid in all other
places where MFC is accepted. The introduction of
coins for use with paper MFC is similar to the way
that US coinage was introduced in Viet Nam for use
with MPC. Apparantly, the coinage will be valid with
any subsequent issues of MFC, but this has not been
confirmed by Fest authorities. When the coins entered circulation a
trend to call
it by a nickname developed. Initially, collectors
looking at the portrait thought that it (the coin)
should be called a loonie, but then remembered that

this name was taken (by the Canadian dollar). Harold quickly became the accepted name. Yes, simply Harold. Hey, can you give me four Harolds for a buck? Or should be be harolds? Nonetheless, the harolds are more popular at the Fest than the inept US presential dollars.

Fest Bourse Near

Excitement is building for the Fest bourse tomorrow. Keith Bauman had to withdraw because of a family medical emergency. The empty table has been filled from the waiting list by Joe Boling who has promised to bring a selection of interesting material.

The bourse is Friday, March 23 1000 to 1730. It is being held at the Port Clinton Holiday Inn Express, 50 NE Catawba Road, Port Clinton, Ohio 43452 (419 732 7322).

The bourse dealers with confirmed tables are:

David Seelye Fred Schwan
BNR Press
Harold Kroll
Carlson Chambliss
Al Galzer
Benton Coin (Bill Yanchick)l Ian Marshall
Joe Boling
Kevin Neidy

Championship Question Corner
Question 191. Difficuly 1. Whose portrait appears on the current Fest quarter?

Yesterdays Question 190. Difficuly 3. The Ananda Temple at Pagan appears on which general issue of Japanese Invasion Money?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers correctly answered Burma.

=====

Editorial

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The lead news stories pretty well sumarize what is going on at Fest headquarters. We are certainly sad that Keith Bauman had to withdraw from the Fest bourse. The Baumans will be in the thoughts and prayers of all Festers. I suggest that Gramsters also keep them in their prayers.

Keith is known to many of you as a bourse dealer who is seen at many shows around this part of the country. He carries a wide variety of paper money

including MPC. However, I think that Keith is better known in MPC circles as the wife of Sue who is the artist who has created several pieces of art relating to MPC. The best known of these is the beautiful artwork used to illustrate the cover of the third and fourth editions of the MPC book.

In honor of the Baumans coming to their first Fest, I had arranged to have the original painting on display at Camp May. I think that I will now hold that back for next year on the assumption and hope that the Baumans will be able to come to Fest 9!

I am sure that I will go down this editorial road many times in the next two years, but I think that we should be looking forward to making Fest 10 a truly spectacular event. I have a few minor ideas, but they are more in the way of evolutionary improvements. We need some ideas of how to make it really spectacular.

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Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Editor,

As far as I know, all issues of POGS are still valid.

Joe

Dear Whomever It May Concern,

Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the Fest this year. However, I would still like to participate in any way I can. Could I possibly buy \$5 worth of lottery tickets? I only have a \$25 bill in the current series, so that would mean getting change (which also means getting more notes to add to my collection). Would that at all be possible?

Thank You,
Sam Spiegel

Dear Sam,

Thank you for your order. We will take care of your tickets and collect in MFC062 at the summer seminar. Possibly we will send you the change along with any prizes that you win. The Fest War Bond Lottery (raffle) has some REALLY GREAT prizes with more coming in. We have just confirmed that there will be two pattern Fest challenge coins. These are the only two such patterns produced. There will also be two patterns of the Harolds (see news story). They are also the only ones produced. There is also a specimen set of Fest bonds. This set is probably unique.

The lottery is Sunday morning. We can still take reservations for tickets for payment later.

Editor

Dear Editor,

I really apologize for missing this year. Good intentions pave my way to the nether regions. I am tempted to send money as an advance for next year just to see if that will get Carolyn & me to do something. However, that is about time that our new house could be finished (that is really where all our money is going these days). We'll see.

Another thought. If you are heading with the Boss to Colo Spngs this summer??? You could come thru beautiful Glenwood Iowa and stop

off. We are just off of I-29 just south of I-80 (can go west or south from there to get to ANA Hq. We'd be happy to host you & Judy while here. I could also introduce you to the Stamp Center at Boy's Town. We have a very large file of military covers, etc. as well as several volunteers who are experts with the material. I think you would find several items of interest.

I sent a "Show & Tell" package care of the fest Hq. Hopefully it does not get lost. I am not old enough to remember mail censorship from WW II. I did find several articles on the internet, including one that has what appears to be a good bibliography.

Have a great Fest and I hope to be there in 08.

rusty

Dear Rusty,

Thank you for the nice letter and invitation, but there really is no excuse for not being here this year. Your remote show n tell has arrived. I believe that this is a first--remote show n tell. I like it. I think that this might be an idea to be developed for the future and especially for Fest 10 (see editorial).

We might want to accept absentee exhibits for Fest 10 (or even Fest 9). As a little aside and brag. Joe Boling and I have championed the concept of absentee exhibiting at the ANA convention. The system is not completely open, but it is possible to exhibit without being in attendance for the entire week of an ANA convention. Obviously, we think that this is a good idea.

Editor

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Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist available, Anythinfg unusual is of particular interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA 66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

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Wanted listings will run for a period of 1 month.

Fest quarters (also known as Fest casino tokens, Fest quarters, and harolds are available to Gramsters. These quarters are ideal give aways to promote the hobby. Additionally, they will be valid for spending at all Fests. 2006 harolds can be purchsed in rolls at \$6.25 per roll (face value (we knew that you would love this roll value!). Rolls are original, unsorted

or searched just the way that they came from the Great
Lakes Mint. As a courtesy we will also send four
harolds for a dollar bill and a self addressed stamped
envelope. Send your orders to MPCFest Headquarters,
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=====

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MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM

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Series 8, no 1541 Saturday, March 31, 2007

Shafer, Feller Champs

MPC Fest 8 was a resounding success. From the first arrivals to the last departures good times were in abundance.

The bourse on Friday featured ten dealers and collectors with a variety of wares for sale. Business was increased throughout the day as more Festers arrived and a few collectors from the general public stopped in as well. Fester Bill Myers is deployed to Iraq, but he was able to participate by calling on Friday afternoon. He made a surprise call. Festers lined up at the phone to wish him well. Later souvenir covers that Bill had created and forwarded to Fest HQ were distributed to all Festers and souvenirs. Bill promised to attend Fest 9.

Friday evening activities included introductions, pay call, and the preliminary rounds of March madness. Saturday mornings activities opened with an autograph party where two new books were introduced. First was the fourth edition of Al Glaser's catalog of Fest money. The expanded version is a loose leaf catalog of Fest and mini Fest notes. The book is in full color. A few copies are still available from the author at \$50.

The other book was Silent Witnesses: Civilian Camp Money of World War II by Ray and Steve Feller. This book was conceived some twenty five years ago and is the product of intense work by the authors for the past few years. The authors opened the first carton of books and distributed them to eager collectors who had purchased souvenir notes the day before that were good for a copy of the book. The authors had not even seen a finished copy of the book until the moment of opening. This book too is in full color and was well received the Fester in attendance. Copies are available for \$39 postpaid by contacting the publisher (see the PX below).

After the autograph session, Steve Feller took over as Fest operations officer and moderated a day of programs on military numismatics. These programs covered a diverse range of topics. Steve presented each presenter with a special copper version of the 2007 Fest medal.

Al Glaser and Joe Boling each reported finding examples of MFC Series 062 with duplicate serial numbers (numbers 7 and 8 respectively, imagine that). This resulted in an investigation by Fest finance and the recall of MFC Series 062 and the issue of Series 071.

Saturday night featured the finals of March Madness where Neil Shafer and Joe Boling made the finals. Neil Shafer prevailed and is the national champion collector for 2007-8. Congratulations to Neil, Joe and all participants. Neil received a champion medal and

all participants received a silver Fest medal. The last event on Saturday night was the traditional poker game. Twenty-two players started the Texas holdem tournament. The last three were Harold Kroll, Fred Schwan, and defending champion Ray Feller. Kroll was knocked out in third place. The final hand had Feller with K-Q and Schwan with 6-6. The final card paired 8s on the board so the Feller repeated as champion with two pair, 8s and 9s with a king. The Sunday highlights were the presentation of the community service award and the scholarship benefit auction. Larry Smulczenski presented the first posthumous service award to Leo G. May. His widow accepted. Thereafter Smulczenski presided over the Fest auction with was successful raising sufficient money for several scholarships. A detailed report will appear later.

Championship Question Corner
Question 192. Difficuly 1. What is the current series MFC?

Yesterdays Question 191. Difficuly 1. Whose portrait appears on the current Fest quarter?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers correctly answered Harold Kroll.

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Editorial

=====

Overall I thought that Fest 8 went well from an organizational point of view. In spite of the later date there were still some transportation problems, but not too many and not too bad. There were a few last minute cancellations because of family and business emergencies. We introduced multiple choice questions for the March Madness contest for all but the final round. I felt that this worked out quite well. It certainly expedited the contest which made it more interesting. The questioners need to work on revising the questions some, but overall it was a good enhancement.

The Harolds (mentioned in a previous Gram) were very well accepted. There was some excitement on Saturday night and Sunday morning when 2006 Harolds were reported. I did not see any of these so I cannot confirm their existence.

We had a meeting on Sunday afternoon where we discusses dates for Fest 9. March 2008 is a crowded month. We selected February 29-March 2. Although I do no like going that early, those dates have several advantages. First, we only have to wait eleven months for Fest 9! The other is the superstitious nature of the Feb 29 date. That seems to be a natural for the

Fest, a perfect fit. If you know of any serious problems with that date, please write now. Other than that mark your calendar! We are also going to try a new system where reservations for the Fest are made by contacting the hotel rather than Fest/Gram HQs. We will publish details on that very soon.

=====
Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)
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Dear Gram,
Did you have a Fest? What happened?

David Klinger

Dear Editor,
Sign me up for Fest 9. Heck, while you are at it, sign me up for Fest 10 too.

Harold

Dear Harold,
Watch for new details of how to register in the next few Grams.

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Silent Witnesses: Civilian Camp Money of WWII by Ray and Steve Feller. 166 pages, large format, soft cover in FULL COLOR only \$35 (plus \$4 per ORDER) shipping. Send you order to the Gram and we will send your book with an invoice or send your order via snail mail to BNR Press, 132 E. Second St., Port Clinton, OH 43452.

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Auctioneer: Larry

Columnist at large: Jim Downey

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MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM
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Series 8, no 1542 Saturday, April 1, 2007

Financing the War for Objectors

by Jim Downey

At MPCFest VIII, Ian Marshall gave a brief presentation on a Canadian certificate that was issued for a contribution to a fund to provide relief to the sufferers of the war. In the discussion that followed, it was surmised that these certificates were issued to pacifists and conscientious objectors who refused to buy war bonds or otherwise support the war effort but wanted to demonstrate their loyalty to the country. Further discussion suggested that the United States also issued bonds in a similar fashion. After a

little bit of research, both of these can be confirmed.

During the WWI and WWII periods, most conscientious objectors (COs) came from what are known as the Historical Peace Churches which include the Mennonites, Quakers and Hutterites. Many COs in the United States and Canada were persecuted during WWI for their refusal to take up arms in the war. In 1935, the Mennonites began to develop a proposal for alternative service. The invasion of Poland in 1939 hastened the effort to establish a national policy for COs.

When conscription was introduced in the United States and Canada in 1940 both countries provided for accommodations for COs. In the United States COs were dealt with in three different manners. Those who only refused to bear arms were assigned to non-combat roles in the military. Those whose CO status was based on their religious beliefs did alternative service under the Civilian Public Service (CPS) program. (A similar program existed in Canada known as Alternative Service Work or ASW. I could find little information on the Canadian program so the following discussion only involves the US program.) The third group refused any type of national service. Most of those in the third category were imprisoned.

There were approximately 12,000 individuals who participated in the CPS program. They were initially sent to existing Civilian Conservation Corps camps and forestry sites. This was done for a number of reasons. First, the facilities already existed. Second, labor was needed to replace those workers from these locations who went into the military. Finally, there was a desire to separate the COs from the general population to alleviate some of the problems the COs encountered in WWI. CPS service was eventually extended to include work in agriculture, mental hospitals, medical experiments and other similar non-military related work. A list of the CPS facilities can be found at

<http://www.swarthmore.edu/library/peace/conscientiousobjection/CPScampsList.htm>

In addition to providing for alternative service, the Peace Churches, through the National Service Board for Religious Objectors (NSBRO), also attempted to work with the US government to provide alternatives to war bonds so that their members could show their financial loyalty to the government. The goal was to provide civilian bonds to provide funds for war relief. While they were ultimately unsuccessful in convincing the US Treasury to segregate funds provided by COs, the Treasury did

agree to issue bonds that were not identified as defense or war bonds.

Over 33,000 subscriptions for civilian bonds were sold in an amount close to \$6,750,000.00. Subscriptions were sent to the Civilian Bond Committee of the NSBRO who forwarded the information to the Treasury. The Treasury sent it to the local War Finance Committees to include it in their totals.

It does not appear that any Civilian Bonds have surfaced in collections. Although it may be difficult to identify them. The information concerning the Civilian Bonds comes from secondary sources which at times refer to the Civilian Bonds as alternatives to Defense Bonds and at other times refer to them as alternatives to War Bonds. Not much weight should be put to the use of one or the other term since these sources are probably written by individuals who do not appreciate the fact that there is a difference between Defense and War Bonds.

Based on the information provided, it appears that the only difference between Civilian Bonds and regular bonds is the lack of the Defense or War Bond designation. While this would seem to be an obvious method to identify them, one has to remember that Series F and Series G Bonds are known with and without the War Bond designation. Some of the bonds without the designator were issued to organizations that are obviously not related to the Peace Churches or COs.

It may be possible to identify Series E Civilian Bonds by the issuing agent. Series E Bonds were issued locally by designated agents. While these were usually banks, they could also be employers as bonds issued by local utilities are known. It is possible that the NSBRO was designated as an issuing agent for the bonds. It would make sense that they were issued by a central agent who would have taken delivery of all the specially printed bonds particularly since the subscriptions were collected centrally and not by the local War Finance Committees. If the NSBRO was not the issuing agent, it may have been the Provident Trust Company in Philadelphia because the NSBRO Civilian Bond Committees office was located there.

In addition to bonds, the NSBRO also sold Civilian Savings Stamps and War Relief Stamps. While none of these have been seen, the sources seem to indicate that these items were printed by the NSBRO and not by the US Government. It seems logical that they would have the same objection to War Savings Stamps as they would have had to War Bonds. The NSBRO probably retained the money for the stamps and when an individual had deposited enough for a bond it was then

paid over to the US Treasury in exchange for a bond.

Unlike the United States, the Canadian Government did segregate the funds received from COs for use for war relief. This appeared evident from the information that Ian Marshall presented. It is confirmed by documentation from the Fourteenth General Conference of the Mennonite Brethren in November 1943 where a resolution of appreciation to the governments of the US and Canada was passed thanking them for permitting non-resistant citizens to purchase civilian bonds, or ear-marked peace-expenditure bonds, instead of war bonds. Since the civilian bonds were the US issue, the peace-expenditure bonds could only be the Canadian issue. (The text of the resolution can be found on the Eighth Meeting at <http://www.bfchistory.org/GenCon1943.htm>).

While there are many unanswered questions concerning both the US and Canadian Bonds, one significant question remains unanswered: were tokens or chits used in the CPS or ASW Camps?

Fest Financial Report

The finance committee has completed its audit on Fest finances and reported that because of excellent management, Fest Headquarters has reaped a large profit from Fest 8 and the three preceding Fests studied. The report further recommends that Fest registration fees should be increased in order to increase profits. In a separate, but related matter Fest headquarters has announced the expansion of Fest activities. Fest 9 through 12 will be held in 2008, 13 through 16 in 2009. Thereafter, Fests will be increased annually until 2015 when monthly Fests will be held at Fest Inn Express in metro Port Clinton. Further expansion will be considered after Fest Inns have been built in 20 states.

Championship Question Corner

Question 193. Difficulty 3. What denominations Banko Sentral ng Pilipinas notes were printed? What denomination is not reported in private hands?

Yesterdays Question 192. Difficulty 1. What is the current series MFC?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers correctly answered Series 071.

=====

Editorial

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As you can imagine, my office is piled high with Fest stuff. No doubt it will take me weeks to get it sorted

and filed. Did I say filed? I am sorry. I did not mean it. We do not use the F word around here. Certainly not THAT F word.

As usual, I am excited about Jim Downey's research and report. Sparky Watson had pervously reported that he thought that the war bond designation had been removed from F bonds (yikes, another F word) to facilitate sales to individuals who objected to the war and/or war bonds.

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Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)
=====

Dear Freditor,

Where has the gram been? Your getting worse, not better, no news from Fest 8 yet. Now, look at the auction I just got on Ebay. Yea, look closer at the \$5. Breaking news !!! I am sureI did not overpay on this one.

Think 9,
Steve Swoish

The message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

Shortcut to:

<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&ih=009&sspagename=STRK%3AMEWN%3AIT&viewitem=&item=190098664105&rd=1&rd=1>

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Calendar
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2007

MPCFest: March 23-25 2007 details TBA.

14 and 15 April 2007

The annual "Maastricht" show, officially named "PaperMoney Fair-Maastricht" will take place, with dealer set up on the 13th, at the "Polfermolen" in Valkenburg, Netherlands. For details, view the bourse web site [http:// www.papermoney-maastricht.org/](http://www.papermoney-maastricht.org/) or contact the show organizer, Joe Eijsermans, atapnc.eijsermans@wxs.nl or eijsermans-events@planet.nl.

ANA Summer semnar

Session I: June 24-29, 2007*

Session II: June 30-July 6, 2007

Memphis 6-8 July

ANA Convention, Milwaukee.

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WANTED SECTION:

Collectors may submit lists of items wanted for their collections for listing here.

WANTED - JAPANESE INVASION MONEY (JIM).

Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist available, Anything unusual is of particular interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA 66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

Dealers and collectors who have these items, are then encouraged to list them for sale in the above section as a reply.

Wanted listings will run for a period of 1 month.

Silent Witnesses: Civilian Camp Money of WWII by Ray and Steve Feller. 166 pages, large format, soft cover in FULL COLOR only \$35 (plus \$4 per ORDER) shipping. Send you order to the Gram and we will send your book with an invoice or send your order via snail mail to BNR Press, 132 E. Second St., Port Clinton, OH 43452.

Fest quarters (also known as Fest casino tokens, Fest quarters, and harolds are available to Gramsters. These quarters are ideal give aways to promote the hobby. Additionally, they will be valid for spending at all Fests. 2006 harolds can be purchsed in rolls at \$6.25 per roll (face value (we knew that you would love this roll value!). Rolls are original, unsorted or searched just the way that they came from the Great Lakes Mint. As a courtesy we will also send four harolds for a dollar bill and a self addressed stamped envelope. Send your orders to MPCFest Headquarters, 132 E. Second St., Port Clinton, Ohio 43452.

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MPC Gram News Letter

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MPC GRAM
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Series 8, no 1543 Wednesday, April 4, 2007

Book Signing Saturday

Brian Phantom of Hiawatha Coin Shoppe in Cedar Rapids, IA (vicinity) is holding a book signing on Saturday 6 April where Steve Feller will be present signing copies of his just-released Silent Witness: Civilian Camp Money of World War II. Everyone is welcome to attend and chat with Steve

and Brian. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and Brians diverse inventory will also be available.

Steve Feller was also a major contributor to World War II Remembered so visitors might want to take their copies of this standard reference along for autograph as well.

Brian Phantom is a graduate of the ANA military seminar so both he and Steve will (should) have their challenge coins so visitors with challenge coins are advised to carry theirs.

The event will be 11am to 2pm 6 at Hiawatha Coin Shoppe, 85 North Center Point Road, Hiawatha, IA 52233 (near Cedar Rapids) phone 319 294 4377.

Scholarship Auction Report

by Larry 39, Ski Smulczenski

The Fest VIII Auction held on Sunday March 25 was again a resounding success. Of the 168 lots that went under the gavel, 138 went to new homes with the enthusiastic Fest attendees. The featured lot in the auction, a spectacular set of 1948 Special Army Currency proofs on card with both face and back of the 10, 20, 50 and 100 DM saw heated action between two bidders as it rose from the opening reserve of \$3950, to the final hammer price of \$4600. An album filled with Fest and mini- Fest notes collected over the past seven years saw heated action between a number of bidders finally selling for \$400. The lot that saw the highest rise in price was an MFC Specimen set that started at \$40 and rose to \$700, all to the scholarship fund. The scholarship fund also benefitted from the generosity of last years guest speaker, Bob Stevenson who came back this year with some other great WWII tales and then donated a group of medals that were won by an Indian soldier that was awarded the Victoria Cross. The Victoria Cross in the donation was a replica, but the other medals were originals, plus a unit crest and a beautiful mug. These items brought a total of \$795. In all the auction saw gross sales of just over \$12,500 with the Scholarship fund netting just over \$3300 of the proceeds. We consider that an excellent showing and sincerely thank those that contributed both in time, donations and generous bids to make this effort so successful. Once more a very proud salute and thank you to the following people.

Kim Bartish
Doug Bell
Joe Boling
John Cheney
Frank Clark

Howard A Daniel III
Jim Downey
Robert Drew
Dan and Kathy Freeland
Ed Hoffman
Holiday Inn Express
Jack Hunter
Harold Kroll
Bill Myers
John Regitko
Fred Schwan
David Seelye
Niel Shafer
Larry Smulczenski
Bob Stevenson
Roger Urce
John and Nancy Wilson
Adolf Witzke

Championship Question Corner

Question 194. Difficuly 3. Where was the Hamerhead Lounge?

Question 193. Difficuly 3. What denominations Banko Sentral ng Pilipinas notes were printed? What denomination is not reported in private hands?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers correctly answered 10 & 100 piso with the 10 piso not in collectors hands. New Champion Neil Shafer wrote: denominations were 10 and 100 piso, with only the 100 piso held in collections. No 10 piso known in private hands. There was some doubt that the 10 piso ever got to a final printing stage. I recall at the time of its discovery as far as I can recall it was not ever really produced, just prototypes. If anyone has better information please let us know. Fest VIII was excellent!

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Editorial

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Disclosure: I am not unbiased about the new Feller and Feller book. Heck, I am not unbiased about most books. I love books. I love numismatics so I really love numismatic books. I also have LOTS of chess books. Having confessed this, I want to praise Brian Phantom and Steve Feller for holding a book signing at Brian's coin shop this coming weekend. I can say with authority that books create collectors and promote collecting. We have many fine numismatic books (can never have enough). Unfortunately, we (as a community) do not do enough to promote our wonderful books and to promote our wonderful books to promote our wonderful hobby. I doubt that they will have a standing room

only crowd, but still, this is a model of the type of thing that we should do more of.

If you have a coin shop, are an officer of a coin club or even an officer or employee of a public library, it is altogether likely that a book signing can be arranged at your place within the next year. If I/we can help you arrange it, we will be delighted to do so. Even if we cannot help you arrange it, we certainly would like to help you promote it by listing it in the Gram.

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Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Gram,

Another Fest has come and gone. This one took a lot of time to get ready for and then it's over. I have been adding a day to each of the last 3 Fests to be able to enjoy more time but it still feels like it is too short. Of course if I keep adding a day to future Fests sooner or later I will be living at the Holiday Inn in Port Clinton. Oh God!

For me the Fest is the greatest numismatic event I attend all year. I have not had the pleasure of attending the Summer Seminar, so I cannot rank that event.

I was finally able to get the MFC book up to date but some events could use a little sprucing up. If you attended any of the events that have little or no attention given to them in the book, please drop me a note with information and scans. Email me at thepapertrader@verizon.net the email address in the list handed out at the Fest is wrong, please use this address.

I will plan on putting in many hours of practice in the card clubs to try to compete with Ray check and raise Feller to keep her from the 3peat but more importantly I want the invitation to the Champions lounge. Clearly all the bowling lessons paid off last year as I completely destroyed the battalion clerk in the bowling tournament to avenge the narrow loss I suffered at Fest VII.

I still consider myself lucky to be able to attend such a wonderful event in the company of such incredible people and get paid to do so.

Put me down for Fest IX. Anytime&anywhere.

Al Glaser

Dear Al,

I love your book. Everyone should provide information as you request and they should also buy a copy!

As to the champions lounge, that is more difficult.

Possibly we can arrange for public tours in the

future.

Editor

10 & 100 piso with the 10 piso not in collectors hands.

I only made the final four (semi-finals). The other three were Neil, Jack Hunter, and Jim Downey. Joe

How about a FallFest in late Sept or early Oct for potential Festers that don't like the snow of February at Port Clinton? Maybe between a MiniFest and a Full Fest.

David

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Calendar

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2007

6 April, books signing. 11am 2pm Hiawatha Coin Shoppe, 85 North Center Point Road, Hiawatha, 52233 319 294 4377 Brian Phanton.

14 and 15 April 2007

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Memphis 6-8 July

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2008

MPC Fest IX, Feb 29-Mar 2. Holiday Inn Express, Port Clinton, Ohio 43452

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Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist available, Anything unusual is of particular interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA 66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram News Letter

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Series 8, no 1544 Thursday, April 5, 2007

Commentary

by Joe Boling

It's embarrassing to note that it has been five weeks since I submitted anything except the occasional criticism to the gram. I have been making notes about things to talk about, but never getting around to sending them.

I received a link to a Dutch auction this week, by Corne Akkermans. Lots 2297-2356 are proof printings of Winterhulp lottery tickets. There are also German POW camp chits. See www.akkermansauctions.com and go to auction 13. I have added two more notes to my position 8 set in the past month - a series 661 \$10 (courtesy of Jack Hunter, who pointed me to the eBay listing), and a series 651 \$5 (from Ed Hoffman). I now lack only the following pieces: 461 \$10; 471 50c; 541 \$10. If anyone can point me to a position 8 note for any of those three, I'd appreciate it. Speaking of the 651 \$5, congratulations to Steve

Swoish on engineering a spectacular hoax reported in the 1 April gram - the 651 \$5 replacement discovery note. The resolution of the photo is just low enough that it's hard to even determine that the suffix is missing, let alone that the last digits of the two serials do not match (a detail I had not noticed until it was pointed out to me this evening - they look like a 0 and an 8). What I had noticed was that the SN was correct for a position 1 note (first 8000). But getting it up on an apparently legitimate eBay listing is the cat's meow (one minor critique - the feedback Steve left called the lot a coin). Way to go, Steve. From the e-sylum of 25 March 2007: "To commemorate

this event, Congress has designated March 25 as National Medal of Honor Day. The purpose of the holiday is to recognize the heroism of the more than 3,400 recipients, educate the public on the medal and what it means, and to celebrate and honor the more than 100 living recipients of the medal." Has anyone else heard anything about this event? I saw no publicity of it around here, where decorated vets are generally held in high regard. [I certainly did not hear of it. That is a dreadful shame since the Fest was in session on March 25. We certainly would have made a big deal of the holiday. Ineed, it is enough to make me keep it in mind for future Fests.--Ed]

The May 2007 World War II magazine has a short story about Virginia Hall, an underground operative for the SOE, OSS, and CIA. In 1943 she was made a member of the Order of the British Empire, but the British government could not locate her to deliver the decoration. It was not until 12 December 2006 that it was presented posthumously to her family (Hall died in 1982). She had done all of her WWII work with an artificial leg (she lost one in 1932 in a hunting accident), and was described by the Germans as the "woman with the limp." During the war she worked mostly in France. She is reported to be the only civilian woman to receive the Distinguished Service Cross (has any military woman received it?).

Championship Question Corner

Question 194. Difficulty 3. Where was the Hamerhead Lounge?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers wrote: you probably not what you are looking for but it is Located in Hampton Lanes - 326 Main St. Northampton, PA. I know this is not related to military numismatics so I would guess it is the lounge at the bowling alley where the Fest bowling tournament is held. [Bill, you are correct that you were not real close on this one. It was a difficulty 3 question. We will let it run another day. The answer IS in Remembered.--Ed.]

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Editorial

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Cliff Mishler's in the Scene column in the April 10 Numismatic News had a good item of interest here. He had acquired an American Museum of Atomic Energy Neutron Irradiated dime at the annual Oshkosh show. We have discussed those before here. I was sure that they were listed in Remembered, but I looked and could not find them (looked in the draft of Remembered II too). These dimes were irradiated and encased then distributed for advertising and/or educational purposes.

I had only seen the encasement with a Mercury dime, but Cliff reports also seeing (having?) one with a Roosevelt dime. Then he ILLUSTRATES the one that he obtained at the show which has a 1916 Barber dime. That is cool. Thanks for showing us, Cliff.

=====

Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Editor

I believe the Brian you are speaking about is Brian Fanton but you are probably confusing him with the Phantom Canyon Brewery in Colorado Springs which could be your hang out when attending the Summer Seminar. If it isn't it should be.

By the way I think the new book is now the Bible of the field and you, Ray and Steve and Joe Boling should be commended for a job well done. I have been handling this kind of material since the early 1970s and can remember when we relied on Arlie Slabaugh's little book, occasional articles in the Shekel and the IBNS Journal and private correspondence for any information on this important subject. The decision to go with color photographs was definitely a correct one. Congratulations!

Bill Rosenblum

Dear Editor,

Note that it is Brian Fanton, not Brian Phantom, who owns and operates the Hiawatha Coin Shoppe

Joe

Hi Fred,

You slightly butchered Brain's name. It is Brian Fanton.

Regards,

Dan

Dear Dan, Bill, Joe, David and others,
Ok, ok, ok. Actually, one way that I can judge Gram penetration is by making a mistake like this! What would make me really happy is if someone in the area goes to the book signing because of the notice in the Gram.

Editor

Dear Editor,

I love it. You have a fall fest, I'll be there.

Adolf

Dear Adolf,

Thank you much for responding to Davids letter in 1543. I had intended to comment, but got caught up in editorial deadlines. First, David was responding to the April Fools story about the huge profits of the Fest and a decision to go monthly in order to maximize the profits. Nonetheless, the subject of a second annual Fest comes up from time to time.

First, let me say, I will go. Yes, if you have it, I will go. It might be possible to have another annual event, but I do not think that it can/should be like The Fest. By that I mean pay, pay call, conversions and the like. By the same token, I cannot see our hobby having a stand alone bourse as a successful event. Still, I think that someone smart might be able to figure out another event.

Editor

Dear Esteemed Editor,

I really, really cannot write that I had a good time at MPC Fest VIII, so I will not write that. The hotel manager, Kim, did another fine job of taking care of me, and of course, the other attendees. I wrote an email to Holiday Inn last year about her and the staff and I will send another one in this year. I managed a couple of reunions for the 519th MI Bn Association in the Washington, DC area and NEVER received the cooperation and EXTRAs like you get from Kim!!!

I am headed for Southeast Asia on April 17. My first stop is in Singapore, then into Bangkok. Then into Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) for a month and will return to the USA on May 31. I know it will be a lot of work and hard times over there for me but someone has to go over there and check on the military/war items in that part of the world. If anyone wants to send me a want list, they can do so at HADaniel3@msn.com.

At the Milwaukee ANA this August, I will again have a club table and am officially representing NI, IBNS, NBS (Numismatic Bibliomania Society) and PCF (Philippine Collectors Forum), and unofficially, the MPC Gram. My handout is attached for any corrections concerning the MPC Gram. There will also be time for an miniFest at the end of the IBNS meeting on Saturday morning, if anyone is interested in creating one. And whomever wants to have one, please contact me about it so I can schedule the speaker for a shorter time. I can also always use excess, junk and/or unwanted coins and paper to give to the new and young collectors who come to my club table, and any and all old references too. I will be driving from Virginia through western PA and across OH, IN and IL to Iowa on my way to Milwaukee. If you are on my way, I can stop and pick up your donation(s), otherwise, you can ship it directly to the convention center. If interested, please contact me.

That is all for now. I still cannot write about having a good time at the Fest, so it will have to wait until another time.

The Master Sergeant Daniel

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Calendar

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2007

6 April, books signing. 11am 2pm Hiawatha Coin Shoppe, 85 North Center Point Road, Hiawatha, 52233 319 294 4377 Brian Fanton.

14 and 15 April 2007

The annual "Maastricht" show, officially named "PaperMoney Fair-Maastricht" will take place, with dealer set up on the 13th, at the "Polfermolen" in Valkenburg, Netherlands. For details, view the bourse web site [http:// www.papermoney-maastricht.org/](http://www.papermoney-maastricht.org/) or contact the show organizer, Joe Eijsermans, atapnc.eijsermans@wxs.nl or eijsermans-events@planet.nl.

ANA Summer seminar

Session I: June 24-29, 2007*

Session II: June 30-July 6, 2007

Memphis 6-8 July

ANA Convention, Milwaukee.

2008

MPC Fest IX, Feb 29-Mar 2. Holiday Inn Express, Port Clinton, Ohio 43452

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and other static information please click this link:
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Columnist at large: Jim Downey
"Ski"Smulczenski - skitex@cox.net, Critic:Harold Kroll
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Marcus Turner- marucs@papermoneyworld.net; Webmaster
and Technical Advisors:Doug Bell "Wiz" -
doug@papermoneyworld.net Russ Walsh
-russ.walsh@gte.net Fact Checker: Warner Talso
-Calendar Coordinator: John and Nancy Wilson -The
Boss: Judy Schwan

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MPC GRAM

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Series 8, no 1561 Tuesday July 17, 2007

Memphis 2007 Report

by Roger Urce

Memphis is hot and sticky in July, especially at the Redbirds game, but that was outside. Inside it was cool and comfortable. The bourse this year extended back more rows than in 06 which afforded the opportunity to visit more dealers. I was able to find a number of number of German winterhelp notes, one more note to add to my Chinese puppet bank collection and a Burma issue featuring a peacock. A few less common JIM notes were also found and came home with me. This year's exhibits were highlighted by a collection of short snorters put together by Neil Shafer. The exhibit featured individual notes and notes taped together in both large and small rolls and was artistically presented with much educational information. I was also able to view a set of about a dozen Yugoslavian partisan notes in excellent condition. The M2C2 meeting was attended by about a dozen or so. There was no pay but two items were available. The first was a give-away by Harold Kroll consisting of a circulated 10 Peso Rizal monument note with "MEMPHIS" stamped on the face and the Memphis post-mark on the back.

The postmark itself this year was unique in one respect in that the date was 7-7-07 (Al Glaser's lucky day!!)> We will not have another date with all sevens until 7-7-77 which will make it during the year of FEST LXXVIII. The second note available was made up especially for the meeting and again featured a 10 Peso Rizal note. These were uncirculated and came from a complete pack of 100.

The back of the note bore the same "MEMPHIS" stamp in red while the face bore a specially made oval stamp in the style of the JAPWANCAP overprints. The stamp reads "Issued 7 July 2007 at Memphis, TN" on the top line and the bottom two lines read "VALUED IN FMC FUNDS ONLY" and "NOT REDEEMABLE IN US DOLLARS." The notes(block #29) were serial numbered with the serial number matching the last two digits of the actual serial number of the note. This was the case with two exceptions as the original pack had no notes ending in 10 and 25 as these were apparently damaged and were replaced with two replacements. The replacements were marked as the others and the serial numbers on these began with the number 1 followed by a space then two digits (a double replacement). The notes were offered at \$5.00 each with the proceeds going to the scholarship fund. One of the two replacements was auctioned and was hammered-down at \$75, the winning bid going to Al Glaser. The second replacement will be held for the auction at FEST IX. I will have copies available at the ANA in Milwaukee. For a scan of the note and information on obtaining one send an email to stjasele@optonline.net. I enjoy Memphis and the opportunity to add some notes, but the best part, as always, is the company and the chance to learn about our specialty.

Championship Question Corner

Question 208. Difficulty 2. Who was the manager of the Frankfurt Barter store?

Previous Question Question 207. Difficulty 2. Where were 1000 yen AMC notes printed?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers from Iraq correctly answered that the 1000 yen notes were printed by the Japanese Finance Ministry printing bureau. He also said that he answered from memory because he had mailed his Remembered home in anticipation of following it shortly. We question the wisdom of being Rememberedless.

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Editorial

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I have been in Casper, Wyoming for about a week. I have managed a few numismatic adventures. Casper is an interesting city. It has but 50,000 folks, but it has about everything that you could want or expect in a much larger city. This is accomplished by unusual combinations. Go in for a root canal and pick up a pizza on the way out. Car wash and dry cleaning, no problem. I had kind of realized this situation, but it became clear when I found the only coin shop in the area. Coins, insurance AND storage units. If you buy enough coins you can insure them and rent a place to store them. I suppose that this makes sense.

The insurance/storage store had a reasonably nice selection of coins--if you like modern gold or silver.

At least the fellow did not look at me like I was crazy when I asked if he had any paper money (note that I did not ask for MPC or WWII paper money which likely would have produced the crazy look). He said that he did and produced a small envelope. It was an amazingly poor envelope. Poor in the sense of preservation. The best note in the envelope of US type notes was a good plus \$10 national bank note on Lancaster (PA) National Bank (charter 333), 1902 plain back. At least the fellow did not have greatly exaggerated dreams of the value. I bought it out of desperation and courtesy.

The next adventure at least had a military numismatics outcome. A brochure for Casper listed a private WWII aviation museum at the Casper airport. I called for an appointment. Jim Good was happy to accommodate and I was in for a very pleasant afternoon.

Jim Good is champion air racer (you can find him with a google search). The hangar where he has his museum is a WWII product. The building itself was worth the trip (across town, not across country). It is full of planes, engines, a few ground vehicles, and miscellaneous displays/collections.

The rooms at the end of the hangar are a labyrinth of treasures. There must be something there for every collector, but you have to dig to find numismatic items. I found some red and blue WWII ration tokens and some ration books. I found a few nondescript notes in the corder of a case, then I found the prize. I almost missed it, but at the last moment found an antique folding fan. Not very exciting you must be thinking. The fan was made from Japanese invasion 5 peso notes! It is beautiful. I have a picture and will certainly work it into the next Remembered.

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Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Gramsters,

After returning from the 2007 Summer Seminar and having the best class of the entire summer seminar I want to thank all of the people who donated to the scholarship for me to attend this class.

I want to thank my class mates and the advanced class mates for all the "special attention they gave to their "special Ed" student-me.

I have started to plan for the next year's seminar and possibly the 2008 MPC Fest.

To those that bid on the YN auction lots that were outbid, I was the winning bidder on some of the items and I placed those items in the scholarship auction for 2008 so Happy Bidding!!! You have a second chance at acquiring them.

This "Special Ed" saying thanks and sgning off for now.

Respectfully

Edward Arrich ANA LM 5512

Gentlemen:

I will be giving a program at the ANA in Milwauke on US war bonds of WWII. It will be part of the IBNS Midwest Chapter meeting on Saturday August 11 at 1:00.

I would appreciate it if you could email me scans of any of the more interesting bonds you may have to be used in the presentation. I am looking for Series E, F and G bonds.

Jim Downey

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Calendar

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Germany

Buchenwald

nd 50 Pfennig C.3951b, F&F GE-140b UNC

200.00

nd 2 Marks C.3953a, F&F GE-142a UNC

250.00

nd 2 Marks C.3953b, F&F GE-142b UNC

250.00

nd 3 Marks C.3954a, F&F GE-143a UNC

300.00

nd 3 Marks C.3954b, F&F GE-143b UNC

300.00

Insured Postpaid David E. Seelye, P.O. Box 356; North Chili, NY 14514

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much for your participation.=====

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Series 8, no 1562 Friday July 20, 2007

WWII US Emergency Issues

by Jim Downey

Most military paper money collectors are familiar with the North Africa
and Hawaii notes that were printed during WWII. The North Africa notes
are Federal Reserve Notes and Silver Certificates with yellow seals; the
Hawaii notes have brown seals and were overprinted on face and back with
the word Hawaii. The purpose of these notes was to create a currency that
would be used in the areas of conflict that could be segregated from the
domestic US currency in case it should fall into the hands of the enemy.

Information from the Bureau of Engraving suggests the United States may have issued an emergency currency in the continental United States.

A Bureau report from 1946 indicates that in fiscal year 1943 (July 1, 1942-June 30, 1943) \$450,800,000.00 in Federal Reserve Bank Notes was delivered to the Federal Reserve for circulation. Federal Reserve Bank Notes (FRBN) are different from Federal Reserve Notes (FRN). FRBN were first issued as large size notes in 1914. The small size FRBN were printed in 1933 and 1934. These were printed and issued as a result of the Bank Holiday of 1933. The Federal Reserve needed to get currency into the banking system quickly. FRBN were printed on unfinished stock of sheets for National Currency Notes and are titled "National Currency" at the top.

They have brown seals like Nationals but carry the identification of the Federal Reserve Banks and signatures of officers of the branches of the Federal Reserve Banks.

The FRBN notes that were released in 1943 were notes that had been printed for the 1933 banking emergency but were unissued during this time because the crisis passed and these notes were excess. They remained at the BEP awaiting further order for their disposition.

The BEP documents indicate that these notes were delivered to the Federal Reserve because of the urgent need for new currency and to conserve labor and materials. This suggests that they would not have been otherwise issued except for the exigency of the wartime circumstances.

This information on these notes is only now coming to light. At this point it is unknown whether there are records of the serial numbers for the FRBN that were issued in 1943. It is very probable that these records exist. If so, it would be possible to distinguish between the notes issued for the 1933 banking crisis and those issued because of the wartime necessity.

Championship Question Corner

Question 209. Difficulty 1. What German city is known to have had a US barter store during the WWII occupation period?

Previous Question Question 208. Difficulty 2. Who was the manager of the Frankfurt Barter store?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers from Iraq correctly answered that the Robert D. Branigan was manager of the Franksfurt Barter Store.

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Editorial

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Jim Downey's article on the WWII emergency use of FRBNs is great. It is something of a redundancy to say that about something by Jim. Nonetheless, it is true and should be said. I have a little something to add (that is probably not much of a surprise either).

I knew about this issue of FRBNs. That may or may not be a surprise. What I think is surprising (or at least interesting) is how I knew about it.

For many years the Treasury issued a pamphlet titled Know Your Money (or something VERY close). It is possible that this same pamphlet is still published.

Anyway, I collect these pamphlets for the war years (no surprise there I am sure). I became interested when I learned that the 1943 (or was it 1942) version included HAWAII notes. I thought that that was wonderful, important, and even interesting so I started looking for all of the war years pamphlets. In doing that I found mention of the FRBN use described by Jim. Researching it further was on my (growing) list of things to do. Thank you, Jim, for doing it for me!

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Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Gram,

Great question Joe!! (regarding the new format of the Gram)

Mr. Doric

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Calendar

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MPC GRAM

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Series 8, no 1563 Wednesday July 27,

2007

Festers In

Results of the American Numismatic Association election for board of
directors were announced today.

Festers Joe Boling and Wendell Wolka (in alphabetical and results order)
were elected to the board.

The complete results of the winners:

Clifford Mishler, with 4,609 votes; followed by Chester L. Krause, 4,518
votes; Edward C. Rochette,

3,541 votes; Joseph E. Boling, 3,442 votes; Radford Stearns, 3,073 votes;
Walter Ostromecki 2,882 votes, and Wendell Wolka, 2,850.

Championship Question Corner

Question 210. Difficulty 2. Who are the only ANA board members (current
or former) who have attended MPC Fest?

Previous Question Question 209. Difficulty 2. What German city or cities
had barter stores during the post WWII occupation period?

Answers and comments: Bill Myers from Iraq correctly answered that
Frankfurt and Berlin had Barter Stores.

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Editorial
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We supported the election of Joe Boling and Wendel Wolka to the ANA board of governors. I admit to being pleased at several levels to their election. However, this should be a fleeting feeling. Joe and Wendell will now be responsible for decisions rather than simply second guessing. We have seen very capable numismatists fail in this leadership role. We have great confidence in the decision making and leadership abilities of both of these Festers. Nonetheless, we will watch and as appropriate report here.

=====
Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)
=====

Dear Gram,

Loretta and I send our congratulations to festers Joe Boling and Wendell Wolka as new ANA Governors.

Dick & Loretta Freyser

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papermoneymike@yahoo.com

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them for sale in the above section as a reply.

Wanted listings will run for a period of 1 month.

Germany

Buchenwald

nd 50 Pfennig C.3951b, F&F GE-140b UNC

200.00

nd 2 Marks C.3953a, F&F GE-142a UNC

250.00

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MPC GRAM

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Series 8, no 1564 Thursday Aug 7, 2007

Zerbe to Festers

Nancy and John Wilson have been selected to receive the highest award of the American Numismatic Association--the Zerbe.

The actual award will be made Saturday evening in Milwaukee at the banquet of the 116th annual convention.

Nancy and John are well known collectors of many kinds of paper money including MPC. Both are past directors of the association, John is a past president of the association, and both are Festers.

PCF at Milwaukee

by Ray Czahor

The 5th annual Philippine Collectors Forum(PCF) meeting will be held during the ANA World's Fair of Money August 8-12, 2007 at the Milwaukee, WI Midwest Airlines Convention Center. The PCF will meet on Friday, August 10th, at 1:30PM for 4 hours in Room 102C. The tentative agenda:

1:30 - 1:40 Welcome & Administrative Remarks Ray Czahor 1:40 2:00 "Marco Polo Bridge Incident" Roger Urce 2:00 - 2:25 "Laura Gardin Fraser and the 1947 MacArthur Commemoratives"--David Provost

2:25 2:40 Update on recent Central Bank Museum Additions Doug Andrews 2:40 - 2:55 RARE Philippine Error Notes Under the US Administration Neil Shafer & RAY

2:55 3:10 Break

3:10 3:45 Discussion of Grading Services Survey Results--Ray & Ken Seymore 3:00 3:45 "Show & Tell" by Attendees (Collect and Count Votes)

3:50 4:40 Showing of David Langes 1993 Presentation of "US Coinage for the Philippines"

4:40 5:15 Show and Tell of Interesting Items Brought to the PCF by Collectors

5:15 5:30 Door Prize Drawings (Great Donations have been received)

5:30 - ?? Free Exchange/Trading/Exhibits

6:30 Meet at local Restaurant for PCF Dinner

Other Activities:

Philippine Token Giveaway to Attendees

Philippine Collection Exhibits

Meet Your Fellow Philippine Collectors

Pictures from the 2005 and 2006 Philippine Collectors Forum Meetings are on my web site.

cookiejarpi@verizon.net

The PCF will also man club table #352 and need collectors to man it. If you are attending, please come to the table at the show. 1 This is a fun activity as you get to meet lots of collectors and

hand give-aways to the young collectors. I will have

a locked case available for displaying interesting Philippine Numismatic items.

SEE YOU THERE.

Championship Question Corner

Question 210. Difficulty 2. What Festers have been selected to receive the ANA Zerbe award?

Previous Question 210. Difficulty 2. Who are the only ANA board members (current or former) who have attended MPC Fest?

Answers and comments: No one correctly answered question 210. The answer is Nancy and John Wilson.

Wendel and Joe are not neither current or past board members. They are future board members (they are installed at the convention banquet).

=====

Editorial

=====

I could not take it. Many of you know David Schwan. He is the Fest artist and my nephew. He was married in May. His older brother, Brian, is getting married Saturday. I had given up on attending the ANA convention because the wedding is 750 miles away in Pennsylvania. Of course I wanted to attend for general and specific reasons, but it was just too much. Then attractions kept building and I buckled.

In short I arrived in Milwaukee a few hours ago! I will leave at about 0100 Friday immediately after the NLG Bash. Then I will make a Boling type dash to Pennsylvania for the wedding.

While I hope to make some reports from Milwaukee, if you can make a report on show activities, please help out and send in a report. I will try to get a Gram out each day (really).

=====

Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

=====

Dear Gram,

When will the mini-fest be? where? thanks

Rick

Rick,

I expect that there will be a mini Fest on Saturday after the IBNS meeting (noon?). I really do not know (hq does not do miniFests).

Editor

Dear Gram,

Sure wish that I could attend my first ANA convention (and first actual show) in Milwaukee, but I must be out of the country so I will have to wait for Fest9.

Cuneyd

=====

Calendar

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2007

ANA World's Fair of Money August 8-12, 2007 The 5th annual Philippine Collectors Forum(PCF) meeting will be held during the ANA World's Fair of Money August 8-12, 2007 at the Milwaukee, WI Midwest Airlines Convention Center. The PCF is on the ANA agenda to meet on Friday, August 10th, at 1:30PM for 4 hours. We plan to show David Lange's outstanding presentation he gave back in 1993 on US Coinage for the Philippines. David Provost will talk on "Laura Gardin Fraser and the 1947 MacArthur Commemoratives.

The PCF will also man a club table and need collectors to man it. If you are attending, please let me know. This is a fun activity as you get to meet lots of collectors and hand give-aways to the young

collectors. I will have a locked case available for displaying interesting Philippine Numismatic items.

2008

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WANTED SECTION:

Collectors may submit lists of items wanted for their collections for listing here.

WANTED - JAPANESE INVASION MONEY (JIM).

Collector/researcher of these notes by zone, type, and block letter, or number will buy or trade. Checklist available, Anything unusual is of particular interest. Mike Payton, 6609 Craig, Merriam, KS. USA 66202, papermoneymike@yahoo.com

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MPC GRAM

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Series 8, no 1565 Sunday Aug 12, 2007

Hessler on Top

Well known Gramster Gene Hessler received the prestigious Clemy Award on Thursday evening at the annual bash of the Numismatic Literary Guild. Barbara Gregory in making the award pointed to Hessler's many accomplishments in numismatics culminating in publication of the Engravers Line and International Engravers Line.

Hessler who is a Gramster, but not (yet) a Fester, has done research on MPC vignettes (along with most other vignettes) as well as other aspects of MPC and other military money. His Comprehensive Catalog of US Paper Money was the first general US paper money catalog to include MPC and his

US Essay, Proof, and Specimen Notes also included much information on MPC.

In keeping with the humor of namesake Clem Bailey, Gene Hessler in his acceptance speech told a joke.

According to tradition, Hessler will make the 2008 presentation at the NLG Bash in Baltimore.

Fellers Win

At the NLG Bash, Ray and Steve Feller were recognized for their new book Silent Witnesses. Joe Boling accepted the award for the Fellers who could not be at the convention. The guild selects the best book in each of the various numismatic categories for recognition.

Championship Question Corner

Question 211. Difficulty 2. What Festers have been selected to receive the ANA Zerbe award?

Previous Question 210. Difficulty 2. What Festers have been selected to receive the ANA Zerbe award?

Answers and comments: No one correctly answered question 210. The answer is Joe Boling and Nancy and John Wilson. Several responses claimed double speak with the previous question about Festers who had been ANA board members. While to some extent we must admit guilt, there was a subtle difference in the way the questions were asked. This question asks who had been selected to receive Zerbe awards. Therefore, John and Nancy Wilson are included in the answer even before they received the actual award.

=====

Editorial

=====

We left the ANA convention on Thursday night and drove straight through (more or less) to eastern Pennsylvania for the Schwan wedding. The deed is done and we survived all of the driving.

We had a great time at the convention and at the wedding. As always, the most important part of the convention (and wedding for that matter) was seeing friends and making new ones.

There were many highlights to both. It was a great pleasure to be at the NLG bash for the long-overdue recognition of Gene Hessler with the Clemy. I bought and sold a few things so I am taking some treasures home.

Do you remember the report that I made from Denver last year about giving the French mint representatives two AM 2 franc notes? To review, after I did that, to my surprise they put the notes in a display case and left them there for the duration of the convention. If I was surprised about that (I was), then I was amazed this year to see that the notes were again on display at the French mint booth. Cool.

We look forward to additional convention reports. We especially need them from readers who were there on Friday and Saturday since we were not.

=====

Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Gram,

When is the mini Fest at the ANA convention?

A Reader

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Calendar

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2008

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MPC GRAM

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Series 9, No 1567 Monday, December 3rd, 2007

Gram back

After a long combination of problems, the MPCGram is ready to invade mail boxes around the world. Roger Urce has spear headed the rise of the Gram and is assuming duties as assistant editor. He will maintain the distribution list and send the Gram on a, choke, daily basis. He will also assist in preparing the Gram.

You can help. First, help us make sure that we are reaching everyone. If you know of a Gramster, or potential Gramster, who did not receive this Gram. Please send the email address to the Gram (or have the person send it). Because Roger is doing this work, please be sure to send all mail relating to the Gram to MPCGram@yahoo.com. PLEASE DO NOT send info copies to Roger or Fred's personal email. As always, please send us your reports, news and views. We expect Joe will get his column going again and there are openings for weekly or monthly columnists. Yes, YOU can be a columnist.

The two reports below on the ANA Convention are obviously late, but they are also excellent and worthy of publication.

ANA Milwaukee - Report
by Jim Downey

I attended the ANA World's Fair of Money in Milwaukee from August 8-12. It was the first ANA convention that I have attended. Many of the usual suspects were in attendance at some time or another during the run of the convention.

I only located a smattering of military related items on the bourse. I realize that the focus of ANA is US coins, but I was a little disappointed by the low percentage of world and military material at the show. I did manage to find a couple collectors of WWI Liberty Bonds. I also gave some MPC advice to two noted US paper money dealers. (I will keep their names secret to protect them from shame.) Neither one knew how to identify replacements! Unfortunately, they did not have any in stock that I could poach before educating them.

I gave two presentations. On Wednesday I talked about Wisconsin Depression Scrip. On Saturday gave a program on WWII US war bonds for the Midwest Chapter of IBNS. It was the only modern military presentation. Unfortunately, the topic was not listed in the program. A handful of spontaneous mini-Fests broke out on occasion with various small groups showing their latest acquisitions. A not-so-spontaneous mini-Fest was held after the IBNS meeting on Saturday. About a dozen Festers and others were in attendance. It ended with a pay call. A series of notes modeled after the higher denomination Series 681 MPC was disbursed. The notes contained text identifying the convention and indicating that they were commemorating servicemen from Wisconsin. The central vignette on the notes was changed to a prominent veteran from Wisconsin. There were also three different types per denomination. The \$5.00 notes were dedicated to the Navy and Marine Corps. The portraits on these notes were the battleship Wisconsin, Admiral James Flatley, and General Robert Burnett of the Marine Corps. The \$10.00 notes featured Army personnel including General Lucius Fairchild, General Arthur MacArthur, and Medal of Honor winner Corporal Mitchell Red Cloud. The \$20.00 notes commemorated the Air Force in the persons of Captain Lance Sijan, Major Ira Bong and General Billy Mitchell.

Three Festers were honored at the banquet on Saturday night. John and Nancy Wilson were recipients of the ANA's highest award, the Farran Zerbe Award. Neil Shafer was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

Despite the lack of available material, the convention was an enjoyable experience. I would go again, if for no other reason than to keep up with acquaintances and meet new ones.

ANA Milwaukee - Report
by Roger Urce

On two prior occasions I have been to Milwaukee and in both instances getting there was quite easy. This time it was a flight to Chicago, an adventurous cab ride to Union Station, just making the train, and a trip on Amtrak to the convention.

My first stop was Neil Shafer's table where I was able to add a number of less common Philippine Guerrilla notes to my collection after a nice discussion with Neil and his wife. After walking around the bourse I discovered a dealer who advertised over 500 pieces of MPC in stock. Naturally I took a look to find the most often encountered fractional and dollar notes in grades ranging from Fine to Uncirculated at reasonable prices. Not needing any for my own collection I asked about the higher denominations for series 521, 541 and 591 and after checking his computer replied in the negative. The dealer then asked me if I had any series 710 (do you mean 701? - er, um yeah) I thanked him and left.

I did find two other notes of interest the first being a Bank of England one pound note (green, signature Peppiatt) with the "Withdrawn from Circulation September 18th, 1941. overprint in XF condition. I had been looking for that particular issue for some time and was glad to pick it up for a very reasonable price. The second note came to me fortuitously; Ray Czahor happened to have a ten Peso JIM note overprinted "MACARTHUR HAS RETURNED, ****, LEYETE, OCTOBER 19, 1944 (see SB page 628) with him when I collected my winnings from his mailbid auction and after some negotiation I was able to bring the uncirculated example home with me. Shortly thereafter I (literally) walked into Fred who was with Chet Krause (should you be in need of a WW II era US Army jeep, I just happen to know where 28 are located). Fred had an extra ticket to the NLG bash and I decided to give it a try. The bash is the Numismatic Literary Guild's awards meeting proceeded by what I can only describe as a "roast" with our own erudite Wendell Wolka as emcee. The outgoing ANA board and officers received most of the attention in word and song (use of the word "song" is a generous description). Afterward the serious part of the meeting took over with the awards. Festers Ray and Steve Feller won an award for the recent book on camp money Silent Witness and Gene Hessler was honored this year with the "Clemy" (not to mention a rubber chicken given to him earlier).

The exhibit area was highlighted by Chet Krause's extensive collection of Wisconsin paper which included Depression and Merchant scrip, Obsolete bank notes (some quite rare), Canal Bonds and large and small sized National Bank Notes all beautifully displayed with historical data. There were two displays of military awards along with photos and histories of Wisconsin veterans. The MPC fractional of series 681 depicting astronaut Major Edward White were also on display along with a brief history. Friday saw the annual meeting of the Philippine Collectors Forum, hosted by Ray Czahor. In addition to the educational presentations examples of Philippine error notes, including JIM and Victory series, were on display.

Jim Downey was the featured speaker at the IBNS Midwest Chapter meeting and spoke about Series E, F and G bonds. About a third of the way through his talk I had to leave to catch the Amtrak to Chicago, to catch the CTA

to Midway to catch the flight home. Hopefully Jim will send a report to the Gram so I can get the rest of his presentation.

=====
Editorial
=====

Wow, so much has happened since the ANA convention and the last Gram. As many of you know, time moves faster now than it did twenty years ago. Nevertheless, I cannot believe that so many weeks have passed. We have struggled to get the Gram going again. Roger Urce has been wonderful in promoting the rise of the Gram. He not only encouraged us, he stepped forward and volunteered to do anything that he could. Well, for the past several days he has been cursing at the computer in an attempt to the the Gram mailing list entered into Yahoo in a way that we can use it. As I type this, he is still working on it. I hope that this Gram gets out on Monday, if not it will be Tuesday or Wednesday. After this long pause, a few more days will not likely make much difference. I am sorry that I failed you for the past few months. I ask your help in getting the Gram back on schedule(?).

Please note that if you are sending info for the Gram, please put the word "Gram" in the subject line; it makes things a lot easier for publication purposes. Thanks, Roger

Send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com
=====

Dear Gram,
Welcome back to the Gram! It's been a long time in coming, and now we have it back. My hat's off to those hard-working individuals spearheaded by Roger Urce for taking on the task. It's the glue we need to keep us going until the next Fest which is coming soon. Looking forward to seeing everyone!
Neil S.

Dear Neil,
Thank you for the encouragement. Letters to the editor are a very important part of the Gram. We hope the everyone will jump on it and send some mail to the Gram. Suggestions and criticisms are fine and news or views are wonderful, but questions are also great. Got a research question or simply something that you do not know or understand, send it in.

Editor
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Calendar
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MPC GRAM

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Series 9, no 1568a Monday, December 3rd, 2007

MPC GRAM
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Series 9, no 1568 Thursday, December 6, 2007

C day,

by Mark Watson

A few months back, I picked up a lot on ebay containing a few pieces of military payment certificates (MPC) a Series 461 Twenty-Five Cent note and Series 471 Five Cent and Ten Cent notes. Also in the lot was a letter from a young soldier to his mom back in the states. He was stationed at Yokota AFB, and he wrote the letter on March 11, 1947, 3:30 PM.

The letter describes many aspects of his life, from listening to Frank Sinatra on the radio, to his work at the lab, cleaning up for an inspection they had that morning, and getting his second stripe a few weeks back. Additionally, he wrote about events that had occurred the day before, March 10, 1947, or more specifically Conversion Day (C-Day) from Series 461 to Series 471. Below are those paragraphs:

We had to change our money yesterday afternoon. If I dont forget, Ill include a sample of then and now. From what I understand the American Occupation currency was changed wherever theres American troops station. I gather that too many people have been able to duplicate it. We did this from one until about two thirty waiting and signing different papers. We had to place our name on all five and ten dollar notes.

Sunday after I arrived back from Tokyo we heard about new regulations about black market operations. I guess they are really going to get strict about any thing that has to do with the black market. Any (mcw Yen symbol) that we have we must have a receipt for it from the American bank where we can exchange it for 15 for a dollar. That rate of exchange is absolutely silly as everything costs at least three hundred s. The camera I want costs 38,000 s and brother thats a lot of America dollars at 15 to one. So if you havent mail any cigarettes dont until I tell you to do so. Id wait until things settle down a little. Im not going to worry about it but neither am I going to purchase any gook souvenirs.

I enjoyed reading about this first hand description of the events, from the new regulations taking affect to the set exchange rate. Also, I can only speculate as to whether or not this soldier had a side business with his mother as a partner. =====

Editorial

=====
During the recent hiatus, Ed Hoffman published a list of interesting military items for sale. I am sorry that I was not getting the Gram out to promote his list. It is altogether likely that he still has some material for sale so you might want to contact him. I think that I might have told you before that Ed is the first person from whom I every bought

MPC from based upon a price list. This is splitting a small point. I had slightly earlier bought some MPC in the mail from Paul Garland to whom I had sent a want list. Anyway, in response to Eds recent list, I order three or four minor things. I ordered them by leaving the order on Eds answering machine (I have a horror story about being shy about leaving the order on an answering machine). Anyway, I left the order and in just a few days received the material in the mail. It was minor--but interesting stuff. I will tell you about the material one of these days (when it appears out of the piles). A few days after that, I was chatting with David Seelye who was lamenting how few of the things that he had received of the things that he had ordered via Eds answer machine. He reported that Ed told him that the reason that he had received so few of the items was that orders ahead of him on the machine were from Neil Shafer, Joe Boling, and Fred Schwan. Those three collectors probably represent 100 years of collecting and if you add Ed into the equation the four might have 150 years of collecting experience. Oh my.
[Ed Hoffman can be reached via telephone at 775-753-2435 or email at: edhoffman36@frontiernet.net - AEd]

=====
Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)
=====

Dear Gram,
HOOORAYY!
Is it Fest yet?????
Cuneyd

[Only 84 days to go!!]

Dear Gram,
What a wonderful surprise in my mail box!! Looking for many more.
David Seelye (in India for a work assignment of 2 weeks).

Dave, is India the farthest place we have sent a GRAM?

Dear Gram,
Glad to see the gram back and running. Thank you Roger for taking it over.
I would appreciate the following to get listed in one of the upcoming grams.

Now that the Gram is up and running I would like to hear from anyone who has put together a Mini-Fest with pay since t
he FEST VIII. I read about the Fest at the ANA and Jim if I could get scans of the notes for the book update it would be appreciated. Please send Mini-Fest information and scans to thepapertrader@verizon.net or mail to: Al Glaser PO box 891390 Temecula, CA 92589.

Al, Consider it listed.

Dear Gram,
GREAT to see a Gram again! Roger, thanks so much for your work. See you all at Fest!

Louise Boling

Welcome back gram! I've missed you!
Larry Gibbs
Gering, NE

Dear Gram,
Well, congratulations.
NEWS Fest publicized in commercial paper money publication:
This month's Paper Money Values from Coin World has an illustration of a series 071 \$64 note on the cover, and the note, the fest, and the dates for Fest IX are all covered in an article titled "Imaginary Money" by Michele Orzano.
Knight/Shafer sale open
Joel Shafer has another Lyn Knight Currency Auctions sale posted on line (www.lkcaworldpapermoney.com, closing 2300 EST 18 December) .I noted the following lots of interest to military collectors:
lots 89-91 - East Africa Command, 10 cents, shilling, and five shillings
lot 117 - France, SB835 Tresor Francais 1000 francs
lot 118 - France, SB852 Suez expedition 100 frs
lot 121 - German occupation of France 1915, Autorites Militaires Allemandes, 2 and 5 francs (these are interesting, with both German and French in use on each piece)
lot 127 - German/Yugoslavia propaganda on a replica of a US 10 gold certificate
lot 138 - UK propaganda note SB192
lot 232 - Allasvallei internment camp 1c
lot 244 - four Oceania replicas
lots 340-367 - MPC and POW camp chits (a long run)
And, there are also lots in there that I am bidding on, that I am NOT telling you about - you will have to find them yourselves.

Joe Boling

=====
Calendar

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2008

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JoeBoling@aol.com Friday Columnist: Warner Talso: wtalso@aol.com

Columnist at large: Jim Downey

Fest auctioneer "Ski" Smulczenski - skitex@cox.net

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Webmaster and Technical Advisors: Doug Bell "Wiz" - Fact Checker: Warner Talso

Calendar Coordinator: John and Nancy Wilson The Boss: Judy Schwan

Temecula, CA 92589

Search the Web

C day,

by Mark Watson

A few months back, I picked up a lot on ebay containing a few pieces of military payment certificates (MPC) a Series 461 Twenty-Five Cent note and Series 471 Five Cent and Ten Cent notes. Also in the lot was a letter from a young soldier to his mom back in the states. He was stationed at Yokota AFB, and he wrote the letter on March 11, 1947, 3:30 PM.

The letter describes many aspects of his life, from listening to Frank Sinatra on the radio, to his work at the lab, cleaning up for an inspection they had that morning, and getting his second stripe a few

weeks back. Additionally, he wrote about events that had occurred the day before, March 10, 1947, or more specifically Conversion Day (C-Day) from Series 461 to Series 471. Below are those paragraphs:

We had to change our money yesterday afternoon. If I dont forget, Ill include a sample of then and now. From what I understand the American Occupation currency was changed wherever theres American troops station. I gather that too many people have been able to duplicate it. We did this from one until about two thirty waiting and signing different papers. We had to place our name on all five and ten dollar notes.

Sunday after I arrived back from Tokyo we heard about new regulations about black market operations. I guess they are really going to get strict about any thing that has to do with the black market. Any (mcw Yen symbol) that we have we must have a receipt for it from the American bank where we can exchange it for 15 for a dollar. That rate of exchange is absolutely silly as everything costs at least three hundred s. The camera I want costs \$38,000 s and brother thats a lot of America dollars at 15 to one. So if you havent mail any cigarettes dont until I tell you to do so. Id wait until things settle down a little. Im not going to worry about it but neither am I going to purchase any gook souvenirs.

I enjoyed reading about this first hand description of the events, from the new regulations taking affect to the set exchange rate. Also, I can only speculate as to whether or not this soldier had a side business with his mother as a partner.

=====
=====

Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Is it Fest yet????
Cuneyd

[Only 85 days to go!!]

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David Seelye (in India for a work assignment of 2 weeks).

Dave, is India the farthest place we have sent a GRAM?

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Gering, NE

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Allemandes, 2 and 5 francs (these are interesting, with both German and
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Joe Boling

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ncy Wilson The Boss: Judy Schwan

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<http://tools.search.yahoo.com/newsearch/category.php?category=shopping>

Subject:
PhoenixMPCGram 1569
From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
12/9/2007, 5:29 PM
To:
fred schwan <fredschwan@yahoo.com>

MPC GRAM

=====
Series 9, no 1569 Friday, December 7th, 2007

Today is Pearl Harbor Day and we should remember those who as a result of that attack and the war that followed are no longer with us. We should also remember that we are loosing World War II veterans daily.

AMC mark variety found
by Joe Boling

Breaking news. At the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists convention in Pittsburgh in October, I found another of the AMC 100 mark Soviet-printed notes with an alphabetic character in place of the dash preceding the serial number. In SB we have an "m" note illustrated, and the draft second edition that was distributed in 2004 also has a "t" note shown. The new piece is an "o" - serial number o78357905. What has never been commented upon is that the two numerals following the letter are much larger than the other six numerals. You can see this in the illustrations in SB (note m7649154 is in the first edition, and the draft second edition has t80502954). Now, note how those two odd digits are clustering - we now have 76, 78, and 80. Is anyone keeping an inventory of sightings? How many are there, and what are the other letter-numeral combinations? Also of note is that the "t" and the "o" are quite narrow - as if they were for a condensed font. This sort of contradicts the published (I don't remember where) speculation that these letters were taken from a typewriter and soldered to a broken serial number wheel. The fact that the other two digits are of such noticeably different size than usual suggests to me that this was a serial numbering machine (or part of one) that was originally intended for some other purpose - it may be composed of ONLY alpha characters on the first wheel. [to be continued]

=====
Editorial
=====

The response to the Phoenix Gram has been great and I thank you for all the kind words and encouragement. Over four hundred email addresses were entered into the mailing list. Yahoo requires that only a limited amount of emails can be sent at one time thus necessitating sending out six different groups of addresses, at least one hour apart, to make sure all

subscribers receive their Gram. We have had a number of emails bounce and as they come in they are deleted from the subscriber list. Please let me know if there is someone who wants the Gram and is not getting it, and if there are subscribers who do not wish to get the Gram (perish the thought!) let me know that too. The object is to pare the groups down so that I can send out less groups and get the Gram out more efficiently.

How many are going to the FUN Show? Dave Seelye and our Esteemed Editor have a table. Will a Mini-Fest break out and can we organize a group dinner for, let's say, Friday night January 11th? We are open to suggestions please write in and let us know what you think. Thanks, Roger.

[We neglected to list Ed Hoffman's email address;
edhoffman36@frontiernet.net - Ed]

Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)
=====

Now that the Gram is up and running I would like to hear from anyone who has put together a Mini-Fest with pay since the FEST VIII. I read about the Fest at the ANA and Jim if I could get scans of the notes for the book update it would be appreciated. Please send Mini-Fest information and scans to thepapertrader@verizon.net or mail to: Al Glaser PO box 891390 Temecula, CA 92589. [re-run in case anyone missed it - Roger]

===

Dear Esteemed Editor,

Good to see the Gram back. I just found a box of stuff I brought back from Viet Nam in the 1990s and it included two \$10 MPC notes. They were obviously bought for someone and I will now describe them in a future Gram so I can get them to the people who wanted them.

As many of you know, I was listed in a recent Numismatist "In Memoriam" section. I am still alive and bothering everyone around me, so ignore it no matter how much you want it to be true. [to paraphrase a quote from Mr. Twain - the report of your demise has been greatly exaggerated - Roger]

My next trip to Southeast Asia includes Thailand for a week and Viet Nam for a month. I wish I could stay longer but when I return, I will have about a week to pack up and drive to the Phoenix ANA. With that time squeeze, I will not be able to attend the next Fest in Port Clinton. That is all for now.

The Master Sergeant Daniel

=== As far as how far does the MPC Gram go I would submit the following for me.....7944 miles (12784 km) (6903 nautical miles). That distance is from Port Clinton, OH (the center of the known Universe) to Macau (the center of all Far East gambling activities).

Living and working over here and haven't found a coin/money shop yet but I will make that a priority for this weekend.

Bill McNease

Dear Bill,

The Gram is actually being sent from a satellite office in Saint James, NY so I think that throws off your calculation somewhat. We expect a report on your findings - Roger

===

RECEIVED gram LOUD AND CLEAR, THANK YOU.
Mr. Doric

=====

Calendar

=====

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Subject:
MPCGram 1570
From:
MPCGram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
12/12/2007, 12:17 AM
To:
fred schwan <fredschwan@yahoo.com>

=====

MPC GRAM

=====

Series 8, no 1570 Monday, December 10th, 2007

German Army Pay
by Jim Downey

The following information is taken from the March 11, 1943 edition of Tactical and Technical Trends. This was a periodical published by the United States War Department between 1942 and 1945. The title of this article was "Pay of German Army Personnel in Africa". "For purposes of factual information, a report on the conditions and scales of pay in the German Army personnel in Africa is furnished in the following statement, received from German sources. The pay is made up of four elements: (1)

Wehrsold Army pay

(2) Frontzulage Active service allowance

(3) Afrikazulage Africa allowance

(4) Kriegsbesoldung (or) War emoluments

Friedensgebuehrnisse Peace emoluments a. Army Pay Army pay is disbursed on the 1st, 11th, and 21st of every month, officers and other ranks getting their pay from the same pay clerk, and through the same channels. The following table gives the scales:

Pay Group -- Rank Pay in lire every 10 days

16 Pvt 96

15 Pfc 115

14 Cpl 134

13 Lance Sgt 153

12 Sgt 172

11 1st Sgt 191

10 2d Lt 230

9 Lt 258 8 Cpt 306

b. Active Service Allowances Active service allowance amounts to 1 RM (1 Reichsmark = 7.7 lire) per day for each soldier irrespective of rank and is paid out with the Army pay. It must be noted that, although the last period of every month varies from 8 to 11 days, the pay is constant, but the active-service allowance does vary between 61 and 85 lire. c. Africa Allowances Africa allowances are reckoned from the date of arrival in Africa, but the money is built up as a credit. When the soldier goes back to Germany on leave or on posting, he takes with him a sort of check which can be cashed at any Pay Office and must be drawn in on payment.

The scale is as follows: privates, 2 RM per day; noncommissioned officers, 3 RM; officers, 4 RM. d. War Emoluments and Peace Emoluments The difference between these is slight. The former is drawn by noncommissioned officers and officers who in peacetime are civilians; the latter by regular noncommissioned officers and officers of the standing army. In both cases a certain fixed pay is paid in to the banking account of the individual. A lance corporal received between 70 and 90 RM per month, the amount depending on where he lives. He gets more if his home is in a town, because rents are higher than the country. The soldier in Africa, therefore, amasses quite a large amount of Italian lire. There is not much he can do with them, and little value is attached to them. It is a common thing for high-stake gambling to cause 8,000 lire to change hands without arousing any feeling on either side. For the thrifter, opportunity is given once a month to send money home. It is handed to the Pay Clerk, who gives a stamped receipt to the soldier and remits to the desired banking account in the Fatherland. Comment: By converting these pay and allowance rates into United States money of current exchange values, we find the total monthly sums received by German Army personnel in Africa, in the grades of private to captain inclusive, are approximately equivalent to: Pay Group -- Rank Pay in lire every 10 days

16 Pvt \$ 51.45

15 Pfc 94.78

14 Cpl 97.78

13 Lance Sgt 100.77

12 Sgt 103.76

11 1st Sgt 106.77

10 2d Lt 125.02

9 Lt 129.44 8 Cpt 136.92

The above computation is based on 1 Lire = 5.26 cents and 1 Reichsmark = 40.33 cents, rates of exchange published in U.S. Treasury Dept. Circular No. 1, July 1, 1942. Attention is called to the fact that the pay of

German Army personnel in Africa, as shown in this report, is lower than that of American troops in this theater."

=====

EDITORIAL

> From Jim's article it was a lot better to be part of the Allied Army as opposed to the Axis Army, not only for pay purposes but also for the outcome. Being the winner and the higher paid are good things. Speaking of articles, don' be shy, if anyone out there has something they want to discuss, a new find, a numismatic question or anything related to the Fest or WW II Remembered, please send it in. Send all articles to MPCGram@yahoo.com and they will be published. Next, look for Fest registration and realted information shortly. Our esteemed editor/battalion clerk is diligently working out the details. We are also working on a couple of new ideas. Watch this space!

=====

Mail Call (send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

=====

Esteemed Editor,

Glad to see you up and sending. I missed the Gram.

hoping you and all the Gramsters have a great holiday season.

Bill Krondak

Dear Gram To be technically correct (now that I know the Gram comes from St. James, NY) I am 8071.6 statute miles from the location of Gram publishing. Now I know, some will say, "but wait, it is further than 127 miles from Port Clinton to St. James." True but the distances are figured in a Great Circle and due to that, the new distance is correct. Still looking for a coin/currency shop.

Bill

[Bill - I have to trust you on the math, but I did look at a globe and Macau is just about directly opposit of St. James. Keep looking - Roger]

Dear Gram,

I am glad to have the Gram back. I will be at the FUN show and would like to attend any get together or minifest. I am giving a talk on POGs on Thur at 1100 (I give credit to the 3 MPC that have vignettes that appear on POGs) and will have 2 exhibits. I will let you try to figure out which ones. Bill Myers

Dear Gram

Note that there is a typo in my column about the AMC marks with alpha prefixes. The note illustrated in SB is serial number m76419154. One of the digits was dropped in the original column. (note m7649154 is in the first edition, and the draft second edition has t80502954).

Joe

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collector. The point is to make the gram more interesting. In all cases
confirm your order via email first.

=====
Now that the gram is back, I have an item for the PX. This was consigned
to me in Milwaukee to sell over the gram. I propose to do it by email
bid. The piece is a beer ration card, 87x49mm, mimeographed on white
paper and glued to gray card. The text reads:

XXI BOMBER COMMAND CSC (PROV)
BEER RATION CARD
Name [Schultz Walter H] ASN [36465245]
Rank [Cpl] Month [August]
PX Officer [not signed]
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Fourteen of the numerals on the bottom two lines have been lined through
or obliterated with pen. The whole card is embossed with a 47mm unit seal
that reads:

WAR DEPARTMENT [around top]
OFFICIAL [in center]
HQ 346th SERVICE GROUP [around bottom]

I will take email or telephone bids until midnight EST 19 December. Email
me at joeboling@aol.com, or call me at 317-894-2506.
Joe

=====

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Subject:

MPCGram 1571

From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:
12/13/2007, 5:43 PM
To:
fred schwan <fredschwan@yahoo.com>

=====
MPC GRAM
=====

Series 9, No 1571 Thursday, December 13th, 2007

More on AMC marks
by Joe Boling

Last column I announced the finding of another AMC 100 mark note with an alpha serial prefix. Why was I even looking at AMC mark notes? Because I was looking for a 1/2 mark note in the Soviet printing. A few months ago Ed Hoffman started distributing lengthy lists of military notes. I went through and picked out all the counterfeits, plus good notes to pair up with them. It occurred to me that my counterfeit class could also cover varieties that collectors should know about - such as the AMC notes with the Forbes privy mark. Since Ed had a couple of Forbes replacements on his list (which have a dash leading the serial), I figured I'd buy one of those, and the parallel Soviet note with a dash - then ask my students "which one is bad?" They would likely look at the typically irregular serials of the Soviet note and declare it bad, when in truth, both are genuine. So I asked Ed to send me either a 1/2 mark or a 1 mark replacement, and the comparable Soviet note. The low-denomination Soviet notes didn't happen to be on his list, so I was not prepared when the half-mark piece arrived priced at \$100. I figured that had to be a misunderstanding of my order, and returned it. I then remembered that the Soviets were not interested in printing low-denomination notes - their objective was to destabilize the postwar German economy by flooding the market with high-denomination AMC. So I needed the half-mark note, and that's what I was looking for at PAN. I must say, the half-mark IS scarcer than the other denominations - I was able to assemble a set of the 100-mark notes containing a Forbes note, a Soviet dash-prefix note, a Soviet "1"-prefix note (when they ran out of numbers, they replaced the leading dash with a "1"), and the Soviet "o"-prefix note that I wrote about before, all with many to choose from so I could match all the grades to the "o"-prefix piece. Not so the half-mark note - he had only a single piece of the Soviet printing. That's a piece that could easily find its way into a junk box - be on the watch for that scarce variety.

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EDITORIAL
Joe's columns on AMC put me in mind of a motion picture entitled "The Good German". The plot of the film takes place in occupied Germany after VE Day but before VJ Day and deals with an American officer who is a reporter. There are the usual nefarious characters including the Russians, the love interest, a murder and the black market. Here's the numismatic connection. Throughout the film reference is made to and

scenes clearly show AMC marks to the extent where serial numbers can be determined. In one particular scene two of the characters discuss the dash preceding the serials on the notes. I won't give away any more, but watch the movie and see if you come to the same conclusion I did about the accuracy of the dialog about the dash.

=====

Mail Call: send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Editor

Hi and thank you to all who have been busy getting the MPCGram back on the web.

One of the items that slipped through the net of military numismatics was an advice that a MiniFest would be held at the Australian Numismatic Dealers Association (ANDA) show in Melbourne Victoria that was held on 12-14th October 2007. The MiniFest was held with stalwarts Tony James and Nik Sharplin in attendance and they were joined by John Yarwood, author of "A Trial Listing of Australian Military Chits" as well as the "A Guide to British Military Tokens.

The minifest was held in a very civilised manner in one of the many small restaurants just off Collins Street and Tony James had to pay his debt as his challenge coin went missing when challenged by Nik at the show earlier in the day.

The usual show and tell was conducted with POW coupons, Internment camp tokens, and WW2 ephemera being shown and enviously inspected.

In keeping with the first Australian minifest a pay call was made. The printer had forwarded sealed packets to the restaurant, which turned out to be overprinted Oceania JIM replicas with 2nd Australian Minifest 12-14 October 2007 printed on them. It was agreed that the pre-eminent set of them would be forwarded to the ANA Summer school for the YN auction in 2008.

This series have serial numbers on them since the printer had located a hand numbering stamp at an antique show earlier in the year.

Examples may become available when the paymaster locates the reserve stock as it was put in a safe place when he moved residences in November.

Compliments of the season to all readers and writers of the MPCGram

Tony James

Dear Esteemed Editor,

I recently found a box of "stuff" from a trip to SE Asia in the mid-1990s. In the box were two Series 641 \$10 MPCs. Since I do not need them, I must have bought them for someone. The first has plate number 5 and serial J10837121J and the second has plate number 24 and serial J19384629J. I know many of you collect certain numbers. If you see your numbers here, please contact me at HADaniel3@msn.com.

Best regards, The Master Sergeant Daniel

Happy Year of the Pig!

"God put me on earth to do a certain amount of things. I am so far behind I will never die."

Next Southeast Asia Trip:

Jan 21 Wash DC

Jan 23 Bangkok

Jan 27 Ho Chi Minh

Feb 25 Wash DC

Happy Year of the Pig!

Best regards, The Master Sergeant Daniel

Dear Editor

There are problems with the conclusion of the analysis of German troop payments in Jim Downey's article. Since the war/peace emoluments are given for only the lance corporal, let's look at that one. Base pay, LIt97.78x3=LIt293.34/mo; service and Africa allowances, RM4 = LIt30.8/day = LIt924/mo; war/peace emolument RM70=LIt539/mo; total LIt1756.34, or \$92.38. Is this indeed less than a US corporal was making at the time in an overseas theater? Maybe when dependents' allowances are included - one of you Internet whizzes, see if you can find a pay scale for US troops in 1943. Joe

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Calendar

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<http://www.papermoneyworld.net/Gramattichments.htm>

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BEER RATION CARD

Name [Schultz Walter H] ASN [36465245]

Rank [Cpl] Month [August]

PX Officer [not signed]

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Fourteen of the numerals on the bottom two lines have been lined through or obliterated with pen. The whole card is embossed with a 47mm unit seal that reads:

WAR DEPARTMENT [around top]
OFFICIAL [in center]
HQ 346th SERVICE GROUP [around bottom]

I will take email or telephone bids until midnight EST 19 December. Email me at joeboling@aol.com, or call me at 317-894-2506.

Joe

=====

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Webmaster and Technical Adviser: Doug the "Wiz" Bell
doug@papermoneyworld.net Fact Checker: Warner Talso wtalso@aol.com
Calendar Coordinator: John and Nancy Wilson The Boss: Judy Schwan

Never miss a thing. Make Yahoo your home page. <http://www.yahoo.com/r/hs>

Subject:
MPCGram 1572
From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
12/16/2007, 12:15 PM
To:
fred schwan <fredschwan@yahoo.com>

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MPC GRAM
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Series 9, No 1572 Saturday, December 15th, 2007

Russian Army Pay
by Jim Downey

The last column detailed information concerning pay rates for the German Army in North Africa during WWII. The following information concerning pay for Russian soldiers during WWII is found in an article titled "The Red Army Infantryman" in the June 1946 edition of the Intelligence Bulletin published by the US Military Intelligence Service. The full text of the article can be found at

<http://www.lonesentry.com/articles/redarmyinf/index.html>

"The Red Army soldier has, like his American counterpart, been granted many benefits as a veteran. During his active service career, however, his pay appears to be a pittance by U.S. standards. The Red Army private receives a total of 600 rubles per year, which is very difficult to access in U.S. dollars, since purchasing power of the ruble to the average Soviet citizen is almost nil. Pay scales range from that of the private to that of a General of the Army, which is 60,000 rubles per year. The equivalent of a private first class receives 1,000 rubles per year; a corporal, 2,000 rubles; a sergeant, 3,000 rubles; a first sergeant, 4,200 rubles. The discrepancy between officer and enlisted pay is great. The first lieutenant receives 12.5 times the pay of a private, or 7,700 rubles per year. The base pay of Red Army personnel is computed according to the position held, as well as the rank. For instance, a captain's base pay may vary from 8,700 rubles to 9,600 rubles depending upon whether he is an infantry company commander or a mortar company commander. Extra pay is given for long service. Certain units receive higher pay than others. Guards units, which have distinguished themselves in action, receive double pay in the ranks. There are additional kinds of extra pay for front-line service, up to 100 percent increase over base

pay. For instance, in 1942, anti-tank gunners received an increase of 100 percent in their base pay (officers 75 percent) and also got bonuses for each enemy tank destroyed. Certain extra pay benefits are given those who hold decorations. Decorations also carry with them other benefits, such as free transportation on public conveyances and one round trip ticket per year on the railroads. [For those who are interested, paybooks for those who hold decorations occasionally appear on Ebay. See Ebay item number 190181370161 for an example - JAD] As a part of his pay, the soldier receives, in addition, a ration of cigarettes and vodka, movie and theater tickets, and free toilet articles."

WWII

Search the Web

Search News

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EDITORIAL

We have been able to pare down the subscribers lists by eliminating email addresses that "bounce". This helps with distribution but there could be a problem. Doug "Wiz" Bell, our technical adviser, tells me that some of the rejected addresses could in fact be valid but come back as bad because the recipient's Inbox is full and the messages are recognized as Spam and rejected. That being the case I would again ask that anyone aware of someone not getting the Gram to let me know so I can restore the address to the listings.

Attachments were another point of discussion. They use up space and can make messages too large to be sent to high numbers of recipients. This situation is being worked on.

=====

Mail Call: send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Editor

The American Numismatic Association has formally opened its search for its next Executive Director. Below are excerpts from the ANA's December 7th Press Release.

"The American Numismatic Association is accepting applications for a new executive director to replace Acting Executive Director Kenneth Hallenbeck, who will step down once a replacement has been named.

"... the executive director must have extensive knowledge of management skills with the ability to initiate, implement and successfully complete programs and objectives; train and motivate people, coordinate activities, speak publicly, and deal effectively with the public, private groups and community organizations.

"Candidates must have considerable knowledge of and interest in the subject matter dealt with by the ANA or a similar hobby field. Applicants must be able to communicate effectively with the membership, understand and implement the ANA mission and objectives, and be able to convey that understanding and implementation to the Board of Governors, staff members, the

members and others outside the numismatic field.

"The minimum criteria is five years experience in managing a business, organization or nonprofit association, including staff supervision, financial reporting and strategic planning. The selected candidate must be willing to relocate to Colorado Springs, and be able to work on weekends and evenings."

Warner Talso

Dear Editor

I knew there was something else about the current "Paper Money Values" that I wanted to tell you, and could only think of the 074 \$64 note on the cover and the mention of the fest in the article. The other was that Amos Advantage is selling SB for \$45 to subscribers (they have retail marked as \$50). Stack's is selling it for \$65 in the current "Numismatic Sun," but has the pages listed as "700+." Joe

Dear Editor

Thank you for taking your valuable time to produce the Gram!! I now realize how much I have missed it! I look forward to seeing you at the Fest! Laura and I will be there with bells on!! See you soon! John Cheney

[I wrote the following for the Gram back in the spring. Today my February 2008 copy of America in WW II arrived with a feature story on the Tuskegee Airmen. I did purchase a copy of the medal and recommend both it and the magazine - Roger } The front page of the April 17th edition of Numismatic News features a story about the issuance of a gold medal commemorating the Tuskegee airmen. One gold medal was issued to honor the pilots valiant efforts in World War II. The obverse features three Tuskegee Airmen while the reverse depicts three of the aircraft operated by them. As a modern day issue of a WW II related event, I would think the medal deserves a place in the next edition of Remembered. Additionally there is a direct link between this award and the Fest, as Rod and Wes Hardy's father was a member of this elite group. Bronze duplicates can be ordered in three and 1 1/2 inch sizes from the US Mint via their website at www.usmint.gov.

See AOL's top rated recipes and easy ways to stay in shape for winter.

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Calendar

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PX Officer [not signed]
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18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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OFFICIAL [in center]
HQ 346th SERVICE GROUP [around bottom]

I will take email or telephone bids until midnight EST 19 December. Email me at joeboling@aol.com, or call me at 317-894-2506.
Joe

[Joe - any updates on the bidding - only four days to go - Roger]
=====

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Subject:

MPCGram 1573

From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

12/17/2007, 10:59 AM

To:

fred schwan <fredschwan@yahoo.com>

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MPC GRAM

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Series 9, No 1573 Monday, December 17th, 2007

Eagle Cash Card May Lead to the End of POGs??

By Bill Myers

When I arrived in Kuwait in September 2006, they were stressing the use of Eagle Cash Cards. These are debit cards that the soldier loads with money and can swipe at various facilities to make payments. They were originally used in the Kosovo/Bosnia theaters, but have spread to Southwest Asia (SWA). They can be obtained at the finance office in

Kuwait and later in Iraq by filing a DD Form 2887, DEC 2004. When I did this, I got my Eagle Cash Card in a nice clear plastic case along with a brochure on how to use it. I also got a key chain that has Eagle Cash written on it. The Eagle Cash Card is the size of a credit card and can be used like cash at the PX/BX, Post Office, Barber/Beauty Shop, Food Court, Coffee Shops, Gift Shops, Commissary, Bazaars, Shoe Shine, Pressing, Alterations, AAFES/MWR Concessions and Finance Office (to purchase foreign currency). There are Kiosks set up at various locations so you can add funds to the card. You can place up to a maximum of \$350 a month of your Casual Pay on the card. When I left Iraq they would only give you \$250 cash and the other \$150 had to be on an Eagle Cash card. The other option is to go to the cashier in Dispensing and give him cash or a check for up to \$300 per week. If the card is lost, it will be reported to the Federal Reserve in Boston and they will cancel the old card and put the funds on a new card, usually a 72 hour process. The card is good for 13 months and at the expiration the remaining funds are refunded electronically or by check. It cannot be used in the United States. Eagle Cash was available in Iraq near the end of my tour. The card is good almost everywhere so there is less need to carry cash so there might not be a need to issue POGs in the future. It looks like the Military Payment Certificates of the future might be composed of plastic and electrons.

=====

EDITORIAL

If Dr. Bill's article is a forecast of the future, what will be the new collectibles? Will we have holders for the electrons or the cards? Will cards be slabbed? It's all too much to think about. But on the positive side, the Master Sergeant (read on below) poses an interesting question. Some research is in order. Anyone in Germany or Europe able to help out here?

Joe's auction of the Beer Ration Card ends on Tuesday at midnight; as of this writing we have a high bid of \$10, so if you're interested get your bid into Joe.

=====

Mail Call: send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Dear Esteemed Editor,

After the Berlin Wall came down, West German and American intelligence agencies started going through East German intelligence files, offices and warehouses. Elaborate plans were found for an invasion of West Germany by East Germany and their Eastern European allies. "Investigators also found cellars full of cash that East Germany had printed for immediate distribution in an occupied West Germany." This sentence is from page 324 in *Prodigal Soldiers* by James Kitfield.

I am wondering if the "cash" was East German currency or a special occupation currency. Since large amounts were stored (for how long?), and

the regular currency could have changed, I believe it was a military occupation currency. Does anyone know if any of this "cash" was "rescued" by numismatists?

Best regards, The Master Sergeant Daniel

Dear Esteemed Editor:

OK, so is there a plan for another Minifest in Melbourne (Australia)? My son is at school there and I could possibly plan a trip to coincide with the event.

Nancy Green

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Subject:
MPCGram 1574
From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
12/19/2007, 5:51 PM
To:
fred schwan <fredschwan@yahoo.com>

=====
MPC GRAM
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Series 9, No 1573 Tuesday, December 18th, 2007

Collecting Morocco (again)
by Joe Boling

Once upon a time I collected notes and coins of the world - right, the world. After, say seven years, I realized I could not keep that up - I had neither the time to go through all the price lists I was getting, nor the shekels to buy the pieces I did not have. So I began to divest - first the Latin American and European stuff, then North African and Arabic stuff, then the SE Asian material, then the Chinese paper, until all I had was Japan and Japan-related (which was certainly enough to keep me occupied and broke). I had lived in Morocco 1953-55, which was why I had a pretty extensive collection of north African material. As it happens, I had been buying Arabic coins from Milt Blackburn for a while, and that market was screaming hot, so I was able to get out of them without a loss - he bought them back and resold them. But he was not yet selling paper - I suggested that perhaps his Arabic coin customers might like some paper to go with their paperweights. He agreed to try it, so I typed up a list of all my Arabic paper, and he sent it out - and it sold like hotcakes. It was not long before Milt switched to paper exclusively, although eventually it was almost all Commonwealth paper, not what I had started him on.

Last April Louise and I spent ten days in Morocco. Among other things, I was able to go back to the spot where I had lived and locate the estate where our house had been (completely obliterated by new construction). While there, I collected (of course) one of every type of circulating paper and coin. This past summer I saw a junk lot of Morocco in a Heritage sale (mostly SB material, but in mostly rotten grades). I bid on it and bought it. Since then I have been buying Moroccan paper types wherever I see them (but not coins). It's not a very extensive country to collect, although there are some tough pieces (the museum in the national bank is notably lacking many pretty common pieces - maybe I'll send them some dupes). =====

EDITORIAL

=====
I recently bought an interesting, if minor, World War II item, on ebay. It is an advertisement from an unidentified war time magazine. The advertisement that the seller described by Bausch & Lomb, Rochester, NY. My attention was first drawn to it because of a large illustration of a

\$100 war bond. When the item arrived I found several items of additional interest.

The first was that the serial number of the bond is clear. It is C52272213C. I wonder whose bond it was? I wonder if it might still exist. The other item in the illustration is a B&L binocular.

The theme of the advertisement is a fairly common one during the war. It is summarized by the closing text: Buy a binocular for a Fighter--after victory use the bond to buy the Baush & Lomb binocular that you have been wanting.

I was quite surprised to turn the advertisement over and find another full-page advertisement by another firm with exactly the same theme--buy a bond now so that you can buy our product after victory. I was amazed that the ebay seller did not promote both sides of the item. On top of that the company is interesting and had the possibility of being more interesting to some prospective buyers than the B&L ad. (not that there were all that many bidders).

The advertisement was run by H & R (Harrington and Richardson) Firearms. I only know a little bit about firearms so I was not too surprised that I had not heard of this company, however the surprise was somewhat greater when I found via wikipedia that the company still manufactures sporting firearms.

As I said the theme was the same, but H&R went farther by offering an interesting free item in a likely attempt to build up a mailing list for post war solicitation. In the body of the ad., they claim that their H & R submachine gun is one of the really amazing weapons of World War II. Then they offer to send upon request the manual for their amazing gun. Cool. Now I want to find one of these manuals! That collector gene is a terrible thing.

When I bid on the item, I expected to donate it to the Fest Scholarship auction expecting to then run David Seelye up on it. It seemed natural because of David works at B&L. Now I am not nearly so sure that I do not want to keep this interesting item for myself. I probably will David look at it. Heck, I will put it on display at the Fest.

=====
Mail Call: send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)
=====

NEWS ALERT!!

The Fest hit the bigtime! The Feller's signing of Silent Witness from Fest VIII is posted on Youtube http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lu_24ThvJDY and <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TEh0Tx982dE&feature=user>

[Thanks to Jim Downey for the heads-up - Roger]

NOTE:

[Joe's auction of the Beer Ration Card ends on Wednesday at midnight not Tuesday as reported in the previous Gram - sorry for the mix-up - Roger]

Dear Editor,

I love having the Gram back. I really missed it.

Loretta

Dick and I would like to wish all Gramsters a

VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Dear Editor,

I will be sharing a table at the FUN show with Fred Schwan. We will both

have our wives present, so if you want to meet the real power in the families, stop by and say hello! On the commercial side I will NOT be bringing much MPC with me on the plane. So if you have specific requests, let me know, so I can pack!!
David E. Seelye aka thempcman

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Calendar

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2008

FUN Show, Jan 9-13, Orlando, Florida
MPC Fest IX, Feb 29-Mar 2. Holiday Inn Express, Port Clinton, Ohio 43452

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For dealer Hot Contact list, ANA MPC museum holdings and other static information please click this link:
<http://www.papermoneyworld.net/Gramattichments.htm>

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Now that the gram is back, I have an item for the PX. This was consigned to me in Milwaukee to sell over the gram. I propose to do it by email bid. The piece is a beer ration card, 87x49mm, mimeographed on white paper and glued to gray card. The text reads:

XXI BOMBER COMMAND CSC (PROV)
BEER RATION CARD
Name [Schultz Walter H] ASN [36465245]
Rank [Cpl] Month [August]
PX Officer [not signed]
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Fourteen of the numerals on the bottom two lines have been lined through or obliterated with pen. The whole card is embossed with a 47mm unit seal that reads:

WAR DEPARTMENT [around top]
OFFICIAL [in center]
HQ 346th SERVICE GROUP [around bottom]

I will take email or telephone bids until midnight EST 19 December. Email me at joeboling@aol.com, or call me at 317-894-2506.

Joe

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Fest quarters (also known as Fest casino tokens, Fest quarters, and Harold' are available to Gramsters. These quarters are ideal give aways to promote the hobby. Additionally, they will be valid for spending at all Fests. 2007 Harolds can be purchased in rolls at \$6.25 per roll (face value (we knew that you would love this roll value!). Rolls are original, unsorted or searched just the way that they came from the Great Lakes Mint. As a courtesy we will also send four Harolds for a dollar bill and a self addressed stamped envelope. Send your orders to MPCFest Headquarters, 132 E. Second St., Port Clinton, Ohio 43452.

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Webmaster and Technical Adviser:Doug the "Wiz"Bell

doug@papermoneyworld.net Fact Checker: Warner Talso wtalso@aol.com

Calendar Coordinator: John and Nancy Wilson The Boss: Judy Schwan

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Subject:

MPCGram 1575

From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
12/24/2007, 5:11 PM
To:
fred schwan <fredschwan@yahoo.com>

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MPC GRAM
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Series 9, No 1575 Sunday December 23rd, 2007

The following was submitted by Jim Downey and is excerpted from the below link:
<http://www.cnn.com/2007/LIVING/wayoflife/12/05/mf.waropoly/index.html>

How board game helped free POWs
By Brian McMahon

(Mental Floss) -- Park Place, Boardwalk, and a hidden map with a secret escape route? For Allied POWs during World War II, Monopoly games came equipped with real-life "get out of jail free" cards.

During World War II, the British secret service hatched a master plan to smuggle escape gear to captured Allied soldiers inside Germany. Their secret weapon? Monopoly boxes. The original notion was simple enough: Find a way to sneak useful items into prison camps in an unassuming form. But the idea to use Monopoly came from a series of happy coincidences, all of which started with maps.

Smooth as silk

Maps are harder to smuggle than you might think. They fall apart when wet, and they make a lot of noise when unfolded. Allied officials feared paper maps might draw the attention of German troops, so they turned to an unlikely source for help -- silk. Not only would silk maps hold up in all kinds of weather, but they'd also come with the life-saving benefit of being whisper quiet.

To produce these silent maps, the Brits turned to John Waddington Ltd., a company that had recently perfected the process of printing on silk and was already manufacturing silk escape maps for British airmen to carry. What else was Waddington known for? You guessed it -- being the licensed manufacturer of Monopoly outside the United States.

Suddenly, the popular board game seemed like the perfect way to get supplies inside German-run POW camps. At the time, the Nazis were hard-pressed to get provisions to their own troops, much less to the Allied soldiers they'd captured. Wishing to hide this less-than-stellar upholding of the Geneva Convention, they happily welcomed Red Cross aid packages for POWs. So

throwing Monopoly games into the care kits along with food and clothing was met with little scrutiny. Monopoly was already a well-known game throughout Europe, and the German guards saw it as the perfect way for their detainees to remain occupied for hours.

Community Chest

In 1941, the British Secret Service approached Waddington with its master plan, and before long, production of a "special edition" Monopoly set was underway. For the top-secret mission, the factory set aside a small, secure room -- unknown to the rest of its employees -- where skilled craftsmen sat and painstakingly carved small niches and openings into the games' cardboard boxes.

Along with the standard thimble, car, and Scotty dog, the POW version included additional "playing" pieces, such as a metal file, a magnetic compass, and of course, a regional silk escape map, complete with marked safe-houses along the way -- all neatly concealed in the game's box. Even better, some of the Monopoly money was real. Actual German, Italian, and French currency was placed underneath the play money for escapees to use for bribes.

Also, because of its collaboration with the International Red Cross, Waddington could track which sets would be delivered to which camps, meaning escape maps specific to the area could be hidden in each game set. Allied soldiers and pilots headed to the front lines were told to look for the special edition game if they were captured. The identifying mark to check for? A red dot in the corner of the Free Parking space.

Get out of jail free

By the end of the war, it's estimated that more than 35,000 Allied POWs had escaped from German prison camps. And while there's no way to set an exact figure on it, more than a few of those escapees certainly owe their breakout to the classic board game.

But despite its brave and noble role in all of it, Monopoly's heroic war deeds would go unrecognized for decades.

Strict secrecy about the plan was maintained during the war, not only so that the British could continue using the game to help POWs, but also because Waddington feared a targeted reprisal by German bombers. After the war, all remaining sets were destroyed, and everyone involved in the plan, including the escaped prisoners, were told to keep quiet. In the event of another large-scale war, Allied officials also wanted to make sure the seemingly innocent board game could go back into action.

Uncle Pennybags goes behind the Iron Curtain

Believe it or not, it wasn't long before Monopoly found itself in the middle of yet another international conflict -- this time defending itself from Communist leaders in Russia.

Being that Monopoly is essentially a game in which one player gets rich at the expense of others becoming poor, Soviet officials had long seen the board game as an overt symbol of capitalistic frivolity and greed.

So, as its popularity soared, Communists took more and more efforts to curb the enthusiasm.

Cuba, the U.S.S.R., and other Eastern Bloc countries outlawed the game for fear it would corrupt the public with positive notions about a free-market economy. Soviet leaders even tried coming up with their own Marxist-themed spin-off games designed to highlight the virtues of frugality. The title of one such knockoff from Communist-era Hungary loosely translated to "Save," while another in Russia had a name that roughly meant "Manage."

But bans and spin-offs couldn't hold down the individualistic drive of the human spirit. Monopoly became an underground success, secretly coveted and played behind the Iron Curtain as a way of escaping the drudgery of Soviet life. It wasn't until 1987, four years before the

collapse of the Soviet Union, that Monopoly was allowed to be legally sold there.

Today, Monopoly is licensed in more than 80 countries, and no fewer than 200 spin-off versions exist. Of course, playing it in the cozy confines of your living room, it's easy to take for granted that there was a time when, to many, Monopoly was a lot more than just a game.

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EDITORIAL

Can you picture a Fest Monopoly or Festopoly? Imagine the currency being MFC, the properties being Fest or World War II numismatic locales, landing on Chance and having to convert to a new issue of MFC, drawing a Community Chest card awarding you funds for producing your paybook? There are a number of creative possibilities. Sounds interesting doesn't it? If we get some feedback we can research the possibility of creating our own version of the popular game.

Tomorrow is Christmas Eve. Our best wishes to all Gramsters for a very Merry Christmas, a Happy Holiday and a safe, health and numismatically prosperous New Year 2008. - Roger

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Mail Call: send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Greetings,

The January issue of The American Legion magazine has a nice article on challenge coins but doesn't illustrate any....see pages # 48-49.

Wood N. Knickel

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doug@papermoneyworld.net Fact Checker: Warner Talso wtalso@aol.com

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12/30/2007, 1:45 AM
To:
fred schwan <fredschwan@yahoo.com>

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MPC GRAM
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Series 9, No 1576 Saturday, December 29th, 2007

A visit to the BEP

by Jim Downey

In June 2007, my wife and I traveled to Baltimore for a few days to visit her relatives. While we were in the neighborhood, I managed to squeeze in a trip to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) Archives. While my wife and in-laws were sweltering through 100+ degree heat looking at monuments, I spent the day in the comfort of the air-conditioned BEP poring over documents relating to the production of Defense and War Bonds.

This was my first visit to the BEP and my time was limited. With the assistance of Dr. Franklin Noll and Cecelia Wertheimer, I was able to gather a significant amount of information about bonds. That information will be saved for another day. While researching bonds, I ran across tidbits of information about other subjects of interest to the MPCGram audience.

T

he Annual Report of the Director Bureau of Engraving and Printing for fiscal year 1947 contained the production records for Series 461, Series 471 and Series 472 MPC printed during that fiscal year. Fiscal year 1947 for the BEP ran from July 1, 1946 to June 30, 1947. The Annual Report covers the entire printing of Series 461 and Series 471 and the first printing of Series 472.

The first piece of new information contained in the Annual Report relates to the number of notes per sheet and may come as a shock to many. After all, everyone knows that there were 84 subjects in a sheet of fractional MPC, 70 subjects in a sheet of \$1.00 notes, and 50 subjects in a sheet for \$5.00 and \$10.00 notes. Not so fast. The Annual Report indicates that the notes were originally printed by Tudor Press in sheets of 168, 140 and 100 subjects. The sheets were cut in half at the BEP for numbering. The Annual Report also identifies the number of proof and specimen notes delivered by the BEP for each Series of MPC. The numbers are as follows:

Specimens:

Series 461: 2 notes of each denomination were printed as individual notes; 93 notes of each denomination were printed in books

Series 471: No notes were printed as individual notes; 57 notes of each denomination were printed in books

Series 472: No notes were printed as individual notes; 36 notes of each denomination were printed in books

Proofs:

The Annual Report identifies the number of proof sheets printed as a whole number and a fraction.

Series 461: 1 72/84 sheets of small size (fractionals - without distinguishing which denominations); 1 14/70 sheets of intermediate size (\$1.00); 2 20/50 sheets of large size (\$5.00 and \$10.00 - without distinguishing which denomination)

Series 471: 1 72/84 sheets of small size; 1 14/70 sheets of intermediate size; 2 8/50 sheets of large size

Series 472: 2 sheets of small size; 1 26/70 sheets of intermediate size; 2 20/50 sheets of large size

How does this informat

ion compare to the recorded numbers in the MPC catalog? There is no record of proofs, so we can only compare the specimens. The numbers for Series 461 are consistent. The number printed would require no more than 2 sheets for each denomination. The recorded serial numbers for each denomination show no coming from no more than 2 different sheets. The numbers for Series 471 are problematic, however. The number printed for this series would not require more than one sheet for each denomination except the higher denomination (\$5.00 and \$10.00) which would require notes from at least two sheets. The compiled sheet numbers for this Series show that specimens exist for all denominations from at least 2 different sheets. Can any conclusion be drawn from this? The only conclusion I can draw is not all notes from each sheet were used. I plotted the known position numbers on a sheet. Unfortunately, there are not enough notes of each denomination in the sample to identify a pattern or make any definite conclusions.

Except for the \$.25 note, there is only one recorded example of each denomination of specimen notes from Series 472. There are two quarter notes and they are from the same sheet. It is possible that more specimens of series 472 were printed in subsequent years. (Unfortunately, I only had time to get the information from 1947.)

Other theories or analysis of this information is welcome.

=====

EDITORIAL

Those attending the FUN show may want to peruse the offerings in the Heritage auction. One particular item stands out and that is the series 692 progressive proof set [see the link below courtesy of Dave Klinger]. Should you win the lot for the minimum bid listed in the offering, it comes out to only about 12K/month over six months. Expect more on this later.

Next it comes to me from a source beyond any reproach whatsoever that our Esteemed Editor/Battalion Clerk will, within the next 72 hours (give or take), publish information on Fest IX which is about two months from now. Stay close to your computers.

Finally, it occurs to me that's time for a certain Southern Gentlemen to dust off a well known bowling ball, which is kept secreted under the porch, for some New Year's prognostications. I can only hope that the

ball made the move from Florida to Texas and that there is a porch in Texas under which the ball is presently secreted. - Roger

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Mail Call: send mail to MPCGram@yahoo.com)

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Cuneyd Tolek sends us a link to "Free e-book: WWII soldier in Changi prison camp" on Boing Boing. [This is worth a look - Roger]
http://www.boingboing.net/2007/12/26/free-ebook-wwii-sold.html

> From Dave

Klinger: Heritage auction link:

http://currency.ha.com/common/view_item.php?Sale_No=456&Lot_No=13277#Photo

It should also be pointed out that absentee bidding ends on Jan 9, at 10:00 PM CT. This lot is in the session at 6pm, 10 Jan (Orlando time).

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SPECIAL NOTICE:

> From Dan and Kathy Freeland, Scholarship Coordinators:

2008 Military Numismatists Scholarship Fund
Supporting the Military Money Seminar at the
2008 American Numismatic Association Summer Seminar
June 28th thru July 4th, 2008 (Session II)
On the Campus of the Colorado College
Colorado Springs, Colorado United States of America

Purpose: The purpose of the Military Numismatists Scholarship Fund is to promote, strengthen and grow the military numismatics community by sponsoring individuals to participate in the Military Numismatics Seminar at the American Numismatic Association Summer Seminar. Specifically targeted are newcomers to the hobby, individuals with an established interest but new to the military numismatics community and advanced military numismatists who are expected to contribute to the content and overall success of the course.

Basic Course: It will emphasize World War II, plus all series of U.S. military payment certificates. Worldwide war-related emissions by all powers (Allied, Axis, and neutral) will be treated, including those for overrun areas and puppet governments, fighting forces, liberation governments, and post-war occupations. Paper money, bonds, coins, and

medals will be covered. Conflicts since WWII will be covered lightly. The segment on MPCs will be about 30% of the course, and will cover all aspects of their production, use, and collection.

Advanced Course: For students who have completed the basic Military Numismatics Course (or have permission of the instructors) an advanced "graduate seminar" style class runs concurrently with the basic class.

Advanced

course students, in addition to independent study and sharing reenactments with the basic course, will receive intensive instruction in short blocks including identifying and attributing notes and bonds that have no English on them. Students work independently on projects tailored to individual interests while still participating in the special "Fest" reenactments of the class.

Your Instructors: Joseph E. Boling and C. Frederick Schwan, co-authors "World War II Remembered, history in your hands -- a numismatic study and "World War II Military Currency."

Eligibility: Anyone having a passion for military numismatics is welcome to apply for a scholarship. The selection committee will award scholarships based on information and responses to questions in the application. YNs are strongly encouraged to apply. Inquires and/or applications can be sent to ksfdaf@sbcglobal.net

Past scholarship recipients are welcome to apply again, but will automatically be consi

dered advanced numismatists and will only be eligible for tuition reimbursement. Further, past recipients must clearly justify why they should be considered for another scholarship. Preference will be given to basic course, first-time applicants. No one shall be awarded more than two scholarships from this program.

Costs Covered: The award of a scholarship carries a maximum value of \$1000 (USD.) \$699 (you must register by March 31 or you will pay an additional \$50) covers tuition which includes the class, a room in Loomis Dormitory (double occupancy) for six nights (Saturday to Friday), all of your meals and free airport shuttles, picking up and returning Seminar students to the Colorado Springs Airport. The scholarship will also pay for airfare up to a maximum of \$301. Reimbursement for extraordinary travel expenses will be considered on a case by case basis (for example: those traveling from overseas) and will be subject to funding availability. Anyone awarded a scholarship will be required to join the ANA at individual expense if not already a member. A one-year membership is \$36 inside the U.S and \$48 outside of the U.S. Submitting an Application: To apply for a scholarship please submit the following information to Military Numismatists Scholarship, c/o Dan or Kathy Freeland, PO Box 195 , Mayville , MI 48744 , U.S.A. or ksfdaf@sbcglobal.net

Name

Address

Phone Number

E-mail address Numismatic clubs which you participate in (include leadership positions held).

Significant numismatic exhibits (and awards.)

Significant numismatic articles (and awards.) Explain your interest in military numismatics.

What do you hope to gain from attending this seminar?

Describe contributions you can make to the success of the class.

The information you provide in your application is the ONLY information the reviewers will consider in awarding applications. Scholarships will not be awarded simply because funding is available. You must submit a quality application to be seriously considered. This is a highly competitive program. Applications will be judged by an impartial committee. All decisions of the committee will be final.

Recipients are requested to volunteer for service to future scholarship programs and are expected to write at least one report of the experience for publication in a numismatic journal. Award of a scholarship includes the likelihood of publishing your name and some general background information.

Please have applications in the hands of the Freelands by February 22, 2008. For applicants outside the US requiring invitations for visas, please coordinate your needs with the scholarship chairman early.

Making donations to the scholarship fund: Donations of numismatic items and cash are gladly accepted to support the scholarship. Items donated are typically auctioned at MPC Fest (February 29 thru March 2, 2008, Port Clinton, Ohio.) Monetary donations can be sent to:

Military Numismatists Scholarship Fund
c/o Dan or Kathy Freeland
PO Box 195
Mayville, MI 48744
U.S.A

Please make checks payable to "Military Numismatists Scholarship Fund. Donations are not tax deductible.

A list of donors is maintained within the "MPC Gram" daily military numismatics electronic newsletter. For a free subscription please e-mail MPCGram@yahoo.com. Every attempt will be made to include donor lists in published articles about the scholarship. These people have donated to the Scholarship Fund in 2007.

Robbie Robinson, John Cheney, George Fitzgerald,
Jim White, Ron Hardy, Dan & Kathy Freeland,
Carlson Chambliss, Roger Urce, Doug Bell,
Frank Clark, Howard Daniel, Kim Bartish,
Ed Hoffman, Jack Hunter, Harold Kroll,
Bill Myers, Fred Schwan, David Seelye,
Niel Shafer, Larry Smulczynski, John & Nancy Wilson
and Joe Boling

Thanks go to Marcus Turner for the many years he administered the scholarship fund.

Past Scholarship Recipients are:

Sam Feedback Lawton, Oklahoma2001
Harold Kroll Semmes, Alabama2001
Warner Talso Albuquerque, New Mexico2001
William Yanchick Benton, Pennsylvania2001
Robert Kutcher Lincoln, Nebraska2002
David Seelye North Chili, New York 2002
Frank Clark Carrollton, Texas2002
Ron Waddell Forest, Virginia2003
George Fitzgerald Fort Wayne, Indiana2003
Robert Drake Marina, California2003
David Seelye North Chili, New York2003
Dick Freyser Fort Washington, Maryland2003
Cameron Bueschel Peyton, Colorado2003
Ron Waddell Forest, Virginia2004
Dan Freeland Mayville, Michigan2004
Rachel Feller Robins, IA2004
Nik Sharplin Melbourne, Australia2004
Jack Hunter Hickman, Nebraska2005
Becky Jirka Lisle, Illinois2005
Karen JachMilwaukee, Wisconsin2005
Kathy Freeland Mayville, Michigan2006
Edward Arrich Coldspring, Texas2007

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